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TOLEDO BLADE

THE GREATEST NATIONAL Weekly Newspaper In the United States.

FOUNDED IN 1836. TOLEDO, OHIO: THURSDAY, MARCH 19, 1896. VOL. LXIV: NO. 13.

Poetry.

ROBIN HOOD'S GOOD NIGHT.

Good night, good night, Heart's Dearest!
The Hunter holds the sky—
There wakes no soul in Sherwood
Save Little John and I.
'Twixt thee and me the grasses
Grow thick and soft and green,
And falls a drift of hawthorn
O'er Sherwood's buried queen.
'Twixt thee and me, Heart's Dearest,
The grass is green.

Shall I not soon, Heart's Dearest,
Good morning to thee say,
And kiss thy lips, of kisses
Forlorn for many a day?
Shall I bid thee good morrow,
Good night to Little John,
And lay me down beside thee
To slumber sweetly on:
Nor dream of lonely Sherwood,
Nor Little John?

Shall we go seek, Heart's Dearest,
That land of Afternoon,
Where shepherds to their lasses
Pipe out a sleepy tune;
Where king nor cares may enter,
And love grows never cold,
Where Allan walks, a-harping
A tune we know of old?
Shall we not journey thither
O heart of gold?
—Nora Hopper, in Black and White.

CLOCHETTE.

Spinning was young Clochette.
Came a fond youth to woo;
She was astride her bicyclette;
He was a-spinning, too.
Clochette! Clochette!
Alas! can this be true?
A tack in the mire has burst your tire;
You've also lost a screw!

Down came that bicyclette.
Oh, what a havoc to make!
Wept, then, this sad coquette.
As though her heart would break.
Clochette! Clochette!
No more he'll spin with you;
He's seen you low, he's proud, and so
I fear he'll say adieu.

"Weep no more, sweet Clochette!"
Up spake that youth so true.
For he was in love with the gay coquette—
And what won't your true lover do?
"Clochette! Clochette!
I'll mend your wheel for you.
Through life's long day we'll coast for aye;
We will not say adieu!"
—Brooklyn Life.

THE PRAISE OF UGLINESS.

Chloe I love with frenzied flame,
In Chloe's charms I madly revel;
Her chief distinction shall I name?
She is as ugly as the d—v—l.

What boots the fair, the fading grace,
Serves but to stir love's foolish fever;
The rarest beauty flies apace,
But ugliness remains forever.

From ugly lips, when lovers hear
A first avowal soft and sweet,
No fancied music strikes the ear,
No fervid flames the judgment heat.

If one should venture now and then
From that wide mouth to steal a kiss,
No need to think of where or when,
Impartial is the chastened bliss.

To jealous transports wild and vain
Let other gallants be inclined,
The powerless poison of disdain,
For naught disturbs my trustful mind.

Chloe is faithful as the day,
I swear; I know she loves me best;
And if I'm jealous far away,
At sight of her I'm quite at rest.

Dear eyes so small and mouth so wide,
Sweet snubby nose, and drooping ear,
O'er this my soul, in bondage tied,
For ever reign without a peer.

Oh, yes, thy true love's constant mind
Will still be thine and thine alone;
The harder is the task assigned,
The greater is the honor won.

Lovers in the profanest manner
Compare—methinks they're much to blame—
With Flora, Venus, or Diana,
The charming object of their flame.

But oh—my fancy straight is checked
Ere such vain praises I indite;
For truth I've far too much respect,
To fable I'd be more polite.

All you who wonder at my lay,
Blame not my taste, I'll tell you why:
Each single verse, the truth to say,
From one to t'other end's a lie.

The name, the beauties of my love
To you I should not dare reveal;
The fool who boasts his wealth to prove
Bids every rascal come and steal.
—Pall Mall Gazette.

Miscellany.

HIS SEVEN-INCH NOSE.

The Abnormal Nasal Appendage of a Yorkshireman.

Abnormal noses frequently set all canons at defiance by being hugely significant of just nothing at all.

Early in the last century a man, Thomas Wedders (or, rather, Wadhouse), with a nose seven and a half inches long, was exhibited throughout Yorkshire, says the Strand Magazine.

Thus, if noses were ever uniformly exact in representing the importance of the individual, this worthy ought to have amassed all the money in Threadneedle street and conquered all Europe, for this prodigious nose of his was a companud of the acquisitive with the martial. But his chin was too

THOMAS WEDDERS.

weak or his brow too low, or Nature had so exhausted herself in the task of giving this prodigy a nose as to altogether forget to endow him with brains, for, poor fellow, he never decided out this latter commodity. At all events, we are told the Yorkshireman expired, nose and all, as he had lived, in a condition of mind best described as idiocy the most abject.

Molly's Church Benefit.

Parson—"Well, Molly, did you like my sermon this morning?"

Molly—"Oh, sir, your rivirence, 'twas mighty improvin'."

Parson—"And what part of it did you like best, Molly?"

Molly—"In troth, plase, your rivirence, I don't remember any part exactly, but altogether it was mighty improvin'."

Parson—"Now, Molly, if you don't remember it, how could it be improving?"

Molly—"Now, does your rivirence see that linin' I have been washing and drhying on that hedge there?"

Parson—"Certainly, Molly."

Molly—"And isn't the linin all the better for the cl'anin'?"

Parson—"No doubt, Molly."

Molly—"Well, 'tis not dirrop of the soap and wather stays in it. Well, sir, it's the same thing wid me. Not a word of the sarmint cl'aner for it, for all that."—Household Words.

Diamonds and Coal.

A little boy whom I know very well, having heard some one remark that coal and diamonds were of the same composition, went into the cellar one day provided with a large hammer and very soon commenced to whack away with it at a great chunk of coal which was lying on the floor.

His mother, on hearing the racket, called to him to find out what he was doing.

"Smashing the coal to find diamonds for you, mamma dear," was the reply.—San Francisco Call.

IN 1906.

An Evening Call in Which the Usual Conditions Are Reversed.

(Frank Russell ushers his friend, Tom Jarvis, into the library). "So glad you came! Take this easy chair—here's a lasssock for your feet—and tell me all the news.

"You're quite sure my dropping in this

MY POOR WIFE HAD TO RUSH BACK TO HER OFFICE.

evening hasn't interfered with any of your plans?"

"Quite the contrary, my dear fellow. I'm delighted to see you, for I was feeling rather lonesome."

"Where are your wife and the children?"

The children have gone to a little party at their Uncle John's, and my poor wife had to rush back to her office again as soon as she swallowed her dinner."

"So did my wife! After all, Frank, we housekeeping have a rather easy life of it, of course, we have our worries—servants and bills—but we always have our evenings free."

"Yes, and I for one am glad I am not an advanced man. I am willing to let the women attend to the business, even if I can't have all the money I want."

"Dear boy, why don't you manage your

MRS. RUSSELL NEVER COULD STAND TEARS.

wife properly. Whenever Mrs. Jarvis is out very late at the club I seal out of bed as soon as she is asleep and go through her pockets. She never knows just what became of that five or ten dollars she thought she had."

"Oh, Tom Jarvis, how can you——"

"Don't look so horrified, Frank. When I married Mrs. Jarvis didn't she say 'with all my worldly goods I thee endow?' I'm sure that makes her money mine just as much as hers."

"I shouldn't dare to do that."

"Oh, you haven't the spirit of a mouse."

"Maybe not. Now when I want anything very much, a pair of new trousers for instance, I contrive to get up a crying spell. Mrs. Russell can't bear tears, so she yields at once."

"That wouldn't work with my wife any more than it did with Mrs. Perry."

"Every woman isn't such a hard hearted brute as she is."

"I should hope not! I suppose you heard that Mr. Perry got his divorce?"

"No! Did he? Any alimony?"

"Yes; Mrs. Perry has to pay him $50 a month and clothe the children."

"So the judge gave him the children?"

"Oh, of cou[illegible]. Perry was not a fit

TRY A PIECE OF THIS CAKE, TOM.

person to have them, and, any way, the law leaves them with the father until they are seven years old."

"I wonder if he will marry again?"

"He told my brother that if he was once divorced nothing would ever induce him to put himself in subjection to a woman again."

"Humph! I'll warrant he will say yes to the first good looking woman with a good bank account who ventures to propose to him."

"Well, a lone man with three little boys is a helpless creature, and you can't much blame him for wanting a home and some one to care for him."

"Try a piece of this cake, Tom. It is a news sort, made from a recipe my father sent me from California."

"How delicious! May I ask how it is made?"

And for the next two hours these two men swapped recipes.—New York Herald.

In a Mild Spell.

This mildness in the atmosphere
Which tells of smiling flowers,
Of swallows in the azure clear,
Of April's fickle showers,
To him who can command his soul
Poetic dreams to skip,
Is fraught with little, on the whole,
Save visions of la grippe.
—Washington Star.

The Penny Tells.

That money talks, the miser knows—
Its eloquence compels
His admiration and respect—
For every penny tells.

She Hits the Mark.

My wife is afraid of a gun;
At sight of one trembles and hollers;
And yet she's an excellent shot
When rifling my pockets of dollars.
—Detroit Free Press.

HOME TERRORS.

Mistress—Suzanne, everything in the house is covered with dust; I can't stand it.

Suzanne—Do as I do, ma'am; don't pay any attention to it.

Mistress—Did the man send the lobster? Bridget—He did, mum; an' Oi sint it back. 'Awas not ripe.—Judge.

Lady (interviewing servant)—I may tell you that we are all vegetarians. I suppose you are not one?

Servant (anxious to be engaged)—Oh, yes, mum. I've attended a vegetarian chapel all me life!—Fun.

"Hannah," said the mistress to her new girl, "you can take that brown serge dress of mine and put it in soak."

"Yes'm," said Hannah, "who's your fav'rite pawnbroker?"—Detroit Free Press.

Mistress (greatly scandalized)—Is it possible you are making bread without having washed your hands?

New Kitchen Maid—Lor', what's the difference, mum? It's brown bread.—San Francisco Traveler.

Mrs. Uptosnuff—How long were you in your last place?

Lady's Maid—Oh, more than a year and a half, ma'am.

Mrs. U.—Who engaged you when you went there?

L. M.—Missis, ma'am.

Mrs. U.—Who discharged you?

L. M. (pause, blush)—Master, ma'am.

Mrs. U. (acridly)—My situation won't suit you. Good morning.—To-Date.

A REAL TRILBY.

CAN ONLY SING UNDER HYPNOTIC INFLUENCE.

Mrs. Gage Believes She Is Controlled by Some Long Dead Singer.

There is a real Trilby in New York city—a woman of wealth and prominence, who, like Du Maurier's heroine, cannot ordinarily sing at all, but whose pure vocal notes and marvellous performances on the piano charm all who hear them when she is under the influence of a hypnotic spell. She is Mrs. Addie Belden Gage, who lives with her husband at the fashionable Hotel

THE REAL TRILBY.
Mrs. Addie Belden Gage, of New York City.

Empire, Fifty-fourth street and Columbus avenue, says the New York Journal. Her strange case has been the marvel of her friends, as, indeed, it has been of herself, for years. It differs from that of Trilby in that of Mrs. Gage has no Svengali—the influence comes on, apparently of itself. No one suggests it. Mrs. Gage feels no ill after effects. Of what occurs during the presence of the influence she is ignorant. She has never heard herself sing.

When the Trilby craze first took possession of the reading world certain wise men, while they submitted to the fascination of the story, declared that the author's main idea was absurd. That a woman who in her normal condition was totally devoid of musical ear and ignorant of technique could, under certain hypnotic influence, with the marvellous beauty of her singing uplift her audience to the greatest heights of passionate enthusiasm was, so they said, an impossibility.

But only a few nights ago a party of guests at the Hotel Empire stopped to listen as they passed to the sweet, clear yet weird music of a woman's voice as she sang in the reception room to a few favored friends. They listened and were delighted. Later one of them closely observed the performer, and remarked something in her demeanor which made her ask questions. The woman, as she sat at the piano with lightly closed eyelids, had a strikingly white, intense, rapt expression on her face, while her hands did not move like those of other people over the keyboard; they seemed to be stiffened up and to fall without being in the least under the control of the player. But they drew forth weird chords and rippling arpeggios of perfect melody. Over this accompaniment the voice broke forth in melody sweet, but very, very strange Without intermission the singer wandered from Gounod to Meyerbeer, from Verdi to Wagner, then to simple melodies, and finally to "Home, Sweet Home." Gradually the voice grows softer and softer and lower and lower, until in the end it seems—not of stop—but to vanish like an echo in the far-off distance, and the singer's hands fell relaxed in her lap. Her fearless lost the strained expression, the eyelids slowly opened, and with a peculiar, sighing yawn and rubbing the backs of her hands across her eyes, she arose from the piano.

When she arose she did not know that she had been singing. From the time the hypnotic trance takes possession of her until it has entirely passed over she is practically non-existent. She knows nothing of her surroundings, or what occurs about her; neither is she aware of the fact that she is singing and accompanying herself on the piano.

Consequently Mrs. Gage has never heard her own voice when under control. Mrs. Gage positively asserts that it is not her own voice. She declares that it is the spirit of a great actress and a singer, long since dead, who seeks astral embodiment, and gives vent to its pent-up being through the occult power of her person and throat. Some 30 odd years ago Mrs. Addie Belden Gage was born in Rochester, of a fine old aristocratic family. She received a first-class education and grew up to be an extremely bright and attractive girl.

About 10 years ago, being then in her early twenties, Miss Belden went on an extended Southern trip with an intimate friend, Miss Hillhars. It was at this memorable epoch that the strange hypnotic spirit came on her. Her musical education, which took sudden and simultaneous possession of both these young girls.

Though both musical, their voices were in no way extraordinary, nor had they attained any high standard of cultivation. But directly the power possessed them, all this was changed. Their voices grew to enormous compass and timbre, altogether different from former attainments, and became suddenly as flexible and cultured as that of an operatic star who had spent years in conscientious study. Though mutually aware of the peculiar gift bestowed on them both so mysteriously, the girls sought no notoriety, in fact, they shrank from it, and few but their most intimate friends have ever known of it.

Soon after this Miss Belden became Mrs. Gage. She married a wealthy Rochester gentleman, who had come to live in Chicago. They recently decided to come East to live, and the last few years they have spent traveling between New York, Boston, Washington and Philadelphia. When in this city they live at the new Hotel Empire, and it was there, through the purest accident, that Mrs. Gage's strange experience became known to those outside her own immediate circle. Both Mr. and Mrs. Gage are much opposed to notoriety.

In the late spring Mr. and Mrs. Gage are going to Europe to make a protracted stay abroad.

The photograph of this modern Trilby, which appears with this article, is a very perfect likeness of its original, and was taken but a few months ago. The original is somewhat above the medium height, and has a round, supple and very graceful figure. She owns a quantity of beautiful hair of rare bronze color, which curls and waves behind her head in heavy ringlets. Her eyes are blue and honest and complexion is very fair and clear.

When singing under control Mrs. Gage has fluent use of languages, which in her own personality and normal condition she entirely ignores. The spirit, who possesses her while singing, must have been a great linguist. This spirit Mrs. Gage calls "Clotide." She never speaks much about her, other than she was a very beautiful singer who retired from the operatic stage very early in a most successful career, owing to a disastrous love affair.

She says that "Clotilde," however, does not play the accompaniments, that it is some other power that moves her hands and produces the strange chords and harmonies which are among the strangest part of a very strange performance.

It would be an impossibility for any ordinary musician with eyes tight-closed and hands moving in such stiff confusion as do those of Mrs. Gage when singing in the hypnotic state to produce such weird, but harmonious results from the keyboard.

All who are well acquainted with this remarkable woman say that she is a very charming person, with genial, gracious manners and that she is the last woman whom any one could accuse of deception of any kind.

HOW CAMPHOR IS MADE.

Japanese May Preserve the Trees, Now They Own Formosa.

One of the principal products of the territory which has come under Japanese administration as a result of the war with China, is camphor.

Small shanties are scattered over the hills where the camphor trees grow, and in all directions the clearing of the woods is going on at a rapid rate. On the hillsides are built distilleries, consisting of oblong shaped structures principally of mud bricks, and about ten or twelve feet long, six feet broad and four feet high.

On each side there are five to ten fire holes about a foot apart and the same distance above the ground. On each fire hole is placed an earthen pot full of water, and above it a cylindrical tube, about a foot in diameter and two feet high, passes up through the structure and appears above it.

The tube is capped by a large inverted jar, with a packing of damp hemp between the jar and the cylinder to prevent the escape of steam. The cylinder is filled with chips of wood about the size of the little finger, which rests on a perforated lid covering the jar of water, so that when the steam rises it passes up to the inverted jar, or condenser, absorbing certain resinous matter from the wood on its way.

While distillation is going on an essential oil is produced and is found mixed with the water on the inside of the jar. When the jar is removed, the beady drops solidify, crystalization commences and camphor in a crude form, looking like newly-formed snow, is detached by the hands, placed in baskets lined with plantain leaves and hurried off to the nearest border town for sale.

With regard to camphor, as in other commercial matters, the Chinese government has acted very foolishly. For over 30 years there has been a consumt demand for camphor, and yet the administration has done nothing to prevent the reckless waste of the forests and taken no steps to provide for the reafforestation of uninhabited tracts useless for cultivation.—Scottish Geographical Magazine.

SILENCED BY A JOKE.

Why Wm. Cain Never Delivered Another Speech in the House.

The death of Congressman William H. Crain, of Texas, removes from political life one of the brightest minds in the South, says the Atlanta Constitution.

Mr. Crain used to be one of the leaders of the House. He never spoke without the greatest attention, for he always spoke well. For five years past, however, Mr. Crain has practically taken no part in the proceedings of the House. His usefulness was destroyed by a joke—a joke from which he never recovered.

Mr. Crain was first elected to the Forty-ninth Congress. He was handsome in appearance, well posted on all subjects, an orator, and a man of great personal magnetism. These qualities immediately brought him to the front. His first speech in Congress made him a name. The newspaper correspondents took a great fancy to him, and often wrote flattering articles about him.

It was during the Fifty-first Congress that he was sitting in the Press club one afternoon discussing politics with a party of newspaper men. To one of them he remarked upon the fact that when some men spoke all the correspondents left the gallery and retired to the lobby, while when others addressed the House they crowded into the House to hear. He added that he noted they always came in to hear him, and he expected all of them to be present on the next day, when he expected to make the speech of his life on the McKinley tariff bill.

The next morning the press gallery was crowded to hear the debate. There were several speakers to precede Mr. Crain. During their speeches the gallery remained full, but the moment Mr. Crain took the floor every correspondent in the gallery arose and filed out into the lobby. It was arranged on the part of the correspondents as a little joke on the Texan.

The concerted action of the correspondents naturally had its effect upon Mr. Crain. It annoyed him so that he cut his speech short and quickly resumed his seat. The moment he did all the correspondents filed back into the gallery and listened to the other speeches.

Though given to joking himself, Mr. Crain could never realize the joke of it. From that day to the day of his death he never delivered another set speech in the House, and rarely ever said anything on the floor. It was a shock from which he never recovered.

DISTANCES ON BICYCLES.

The Average Distances of the Different Kinds of Riders.

An average afternoon ride for a business man who does not train regularly is 20 miles, without much of a stop anywhere from the first to the 20th mile. An average ride for a woman who probably never has taken much exercise is 10 miles, with several dismounts, to walk up most hills, and get the variation on the muscles furnished by a little walk. An average ride for a young man in school or college who has been in pretty good condition for some time, if not absolutely in training, is from 40 to 50 miles in an afternoon, without much stop. An average ride for a girl of healthy out-door life and training—for there is always a certain amount of physical training in out-door life—is 20 miles in a day, with several stops. Here are four grades, so to speak, which merely give us a basis to work on. Now as to the time occupied. In the first, the man's 20-mile ride, it would be safe to say two hours should be occupied in doing the ride. In the second, the woman's 10-mile ride, about an hour and a half altogether would be required. That is to say, she will wheel at the rate of seven or eight miles an hour, to occupy a good 15 minutes in walking. The third case, that of the young man in training doing 50 miles, ought to occupy under four hours, or, at any rate, not much more than four hours. —Harper's Round Table.

To Be Avoided.

Day—At least there is one state that will never be bothered with anarchists.

Week—Which one is that?

Day—Wash.—Exchange.

Our Serial Story.

THE MYSTERY OF AVENUE D.

WRITTEN EXPRESSLY FOR THE BLADE
BY DAVID LOWRY.

CHAPTER XIV.—THE FACE AT THE WINDOW.

"Suppose you look again," said Billy. To gratify him, Maxwell looked a second time.

Gleaming rocks and mesquit and silent pines met his gaze every way he turned; he could hear sounds coming up from the gulch far below him; thought he could distinguish something that looked like rabbits, but no resemblance to a human figure rewarded his scrutiny; he asked himself it was possible that Barnes's story, which interested him greatly, could have made such an impression upon him that he fancied he beheld a face when there was nothing there but mountain air. The next minute the thought was dismissed; certainly he beheld a face—but what had become of the owner of the face?

"Barnes," he demanded brusquely, "are there any caves around here—any holes in the ground?"

"Only what the miners make."

"This is the strangest thing that I ever experienced—there is nobody in sight."

"Well," said Barnes slowly, "just hand my gun to me."

Maxwell placed the gun to his hand.

"I'll feel a little more comfortable with it handy," said Barnes. "I'll be here alone till the boys come up—and if anybody should come that ain't just welcome I want a fighting chance."

"I am sorry that I can not remain with you," Maxwell said, "but I ought to be making my way to Cripple Creek."

"Don't you worry about me—you've done more than your share—I'll be all right till the boys come back. But—" he lowered his voice, "if you are concerned about Ford—look out—don't let him get the bulge on you. I don't want to know your business—just you keep a sharp lookout."

Maxwell, who had come to the same conclusion, thanked Billy for his advice, and closed the door of the cabin softly after bidding the miner good-bye.

If Maxwell had not passed through many perils he would have trembled with dread as he turned his face in the direction of Cripple Creek. He had been a target so often on the picket lines where sharp shooters had a fair aim at him, that he came to the conclusion that his fate was not in his own hands; nevertheless, he wisely adopted all reasonable precautions. He had examined his revolver carefully before he left the cabin. If danger awaited him, he would try to be prepared for it.

He was as anxious to return to Cripple Creek as he had been to extend his investigations into the camps around the town. He was alive to the necessity of communicating immediately with New York. Every hour was precious; the information he had acquired was very valuable, but it should be acted upon at the earliest moment possible.

He had a long walk; it was at least three miles to Scott's ranch, where the stage passed; if he failed to reach the ranch in time, another day would be lost.

The trail was very rough, but Maxwell was a sturdy walker accustomed to much out-door exercise and long walks. He swung along at a rapid pace despite the obstacles in his path, until he reached the summit of the divide, where he could see Scott's ranch in full view. And there a strange scene was enacted before him.

The stage road curved around the opposite divide unexpectedly; near the crest, but at least a mile distant, Maxwell beheld the coach drawn up in the middle of the road. One glance told him the coach was scarcely half a mile from him. The driver was sitting upon his box. A little distance behind the coach stood a row of passengers holding their hands above their heads. A man passed along the row. Maxwell imagined he could hear the oaths of the despoiled as he turned from one to the other. Then a figure until then unsuspected, was discerned standing motionless close beside a stunted pine. This figure was as lifelike apparently as a statue, it was evident, however, that it was this statue-like figure that held the driver in check while the man passing from passenger to passenger relieved them of their valuables.

Although Maxwell's recent experiences were still painfully fresh in his mind he could not help smiling at the methodical manner in which the coach was "held up." It was all done with as much regularity and deliberation as a general reviews a brigade. Maxwell could not resist the temptation to shout, however. The passengers heard him, some of them dropped their hands; he could see them moving; but they held their hands up much quicker than they dropped them; the man in front of the line did not deign to turn his head.

A minute later the man walked slowly away; the passengers still stood with their hands above their heads; perhaps ten minutes passed before the passengers got into the coach. Then the driver lashed the horses, and the coach clattered down to Scott's ranch.

Maxwell congratulated himself upon the chance that prevented him from falling into the hands of road agents. And it seemed to be a fortunate circumstance for him; if the coach had not been delayed, he would have missed it; as it was, he was barely in time, for the driver was eager to reach Cripple Creek to spread the news of another "hold up" at Scott's ranch.

The passengers were in a bad humor; they cursed everything in Colorado from the jack rabbits to the gold mines. In spite of their misfortunes, Maxwell smiled inwardly at the heartiness of their maledictions. There was a spring in his temperament that enabled him to accept the vicissitudes of fortune with more philosophy; but he made due allowance for indifference in temperament, and held his peace.

One passenger in particular amused Maxwell. This was a little middle-aged man with a goatee that reminded him of the pictures of "Uncle Sam," and whose chief regret was, not that he had lost his money, but that the robbers had compelled him to toss his revolver away. As a matter of course, all the revolvers were tossed into the road. But this particular revolver cost the purchaser twenty dollars.

"If any body had told me that I would give up my revolver instead of shooting the man that asked me for it, I'd called him a liar!" exclaimed the little man with the goatee.

"We're a nice crowd altogther," said another; "we had seven revolvers and a long, seven men and scopes every mother's son of us—a nice story to take to Cripple Creek!"

"O, Lord, stop your mouth," said a surly passenger, "as if it isn't common for everybody to give up—they never do anything else. What's the use of being bored with a bullet when you can save your skin? Talk sense; that fellow would bore half a dozen holes in the driver and hold half of us out on the road before you could get your poor little fancy pistol out of your pocket."

Maxwell ventured to inquire what manner of men had robbed them. They knew that he was the solitary witness of the robbery.

"They both had black masks on—one had a harsh, rough voice; the other didn't open his head. He just covered the driver, taking care to keep the rest of us in range of his gun. He seemed younger, slighter—a man that might weigh about a hundred and forty pounds.

"How tall was the slight-built man?" Maxwell asked.

"Not more than just medium."

A description that fitted Fox's "nevvy" closely.

"There was nothing in the dress of either that was particular?"

None of the passengers could remember any peculiarity in the attire of the robbers. Then ensued a series of guesses at the color of the robber's hair that revealed the fact that they were so flustered that they were unable to notice anything, or give any reliable information beyond that already imparted to Maxwell, a common experience.

Maxwell remarked the strange coincidences—the face at Billy Barnes's window, the disappearance of its owner, who had seemingly dropped into the earth, and the robbery an hour later. If it was really the face of Fox's "nevvy" that he had seen at Barnes's window, there was nothing to prevent Fox's "nevvy" from rejoining a confederate in ample time to hold up the coach, with plenty of time to spare, provided they had horses—and who ever heard of a coach being held up by men that were not provided with horses?

Fox's "nevvy" had only to cut across the gulch—with or without a horse he had ample time to meet the coach at the point it was stopped.

When the news was discussed in Cripple Creek that night, the opinion gained ground that the hills were full of road agents." An opinion in which Maxwell did not concur; for as time passed he thought he had more reason to think that the slayers of Tom Davis and the road agents that held up the stage at Scott's ranch were one and the same.

The face of Fox's "nevvy" was never out of his mind all that day; he dreamed of it that night.

CHAPTER XX.—A REMARKABLE COINCIDENCE.

When Maxwell stepped out of the coach at Cripple Creek he made his way immediately to the telegraph office and sent a dispatch to the president of the Globe Assurance Company. The dispatch read: "Forward leading New York papers for April 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11. Letter next mail. Evidence of fraud conclusive and overwhelming."

He was up early the next morning. He ate his breakfast alone, then hurried back to his room and sat down to write. By 9 o'clock he had sealed his letter and seen it deposited in the pouch destined for the East; he could do no more to insure its quick delivery.

The impression it made upon the presidents of the companies interested may be judged. I give the letter in full:

"Accompanying this I beg leave to submit the result of my investigations thus far.

"I will begin by grouping the mines at a distance, leaving those in the immediate vicinity for the last for obvious reasons.

"Fitch and Latimore in their communications and subsequent interviews referred more especially to the following mines as the most valuable: I take them up in the order in which they placed them.

"Beginning with the 'Dewlap' mine; this property was discovered last year. Situate in Silver Lake Basin, at the head of La Platte river. Vein a true fissure. Twenty-two feet. Ore represented to be tellurian. Claimed that the entire vein is mineralized, estimated value $4 to the ton. Ore said to be treated at Junction Creek reported to yield $400 per ton. Could be mined and milled at a cost of $6. Discovered according to Fitch and Latimore's report by a man now in Durango, who held it two months, sold to Eastern men for $50,000 cash. Resold by New York parties according to Fitch and Latimore's statement for $150,000 to Fitch and Latimore. Samples of the ores selected at various points and treated by the cyanidide mill have proved utterly worthless. The Eastern buyers are an invention; original discoverer bogus; the assay exhibited to you is pronounced a bold forgery.

"The Giant mine is located on Samson's Gulch on Lightner Creek on east side of Rio La Platte; vein 200 feet thick; ore decomposed porphyry. Claimed milling tests yielded $34 per ton, cost of mining $1.25 per ton. One Herkimer is given as first purchaser, he sold to Cramp for $10,000. Cramp sold to Latimore and Fitch for $50,000. Herkimer and Cramp unknown. Ores treated at two mills pronounced worthless. Certificates inclosed show that the ore yields from $1 to $2 per ton. Assays exhibited to you pronounced forgeries.

"The Croesus mine is located near the Cebello, on Goose Creek, about 18 miles from Gunnison. Discovered by prospector named Darby. Veins in the form of trachyte braccia, with matamorphic granite close beside it. Formation principally gneiss and schist in one belt, granite and porphyry in another. Certificates inclosed shows it yields $2 to $2 per ton. Assays exhibited to you claim $600 and $865 per ton.

"This was purchased from a preacher who was dismissed by his congregation for grossly immoral practices—still indulged in here in Cripple Creek. Nobody who knows him would believe him on oath. Whether he received $1 or the $20,000 Fitch and Latimore assert he received from the New York parties they claim they bought from, paying $100,000 cash for the mine seems to me a matter to be decided later.

"The chief thing I direct your attention to is the fact that no assays were made from the time the preacher sold to the New York people. No such firm as Lukens, Ward & Scott are known here, nor is there any reason that such firm ever existed save in the imaginations of Fitch and Latimore.

"The assays are forged like all the others exhibited to you. Samples of the ores treated carefully yielded less than $4 per ton. Cost of mining from $4 to $6 per ton. Add transportation—18 miles—the ore is worthless.

"I come now to the two mines near here—the Eagle and Hawk mines. Fitch and Latimore represented that they paid over and over to the New York people who are in with them paid—$50,000 for the Eagle and $25,000 for the Hawk mine. Curiously enough, they also submitted assays showing a yield of $250 per ton for the Hawk and $500 per ton for the Eagle. The certificates inclosed show $2.50 and $5 respectively for these two great gold mines. Certificates shown you are the poorest forgeries of the lot.

"I have in my possession letters from Fitch to one Tom Davis now dead, showing that Fitch bought both these mines from him for the sum of $250 for the Hawk and $500 for the Eagle. But the records bear the name of one Suffolk. Apparently Fitch bought for somebody else. There was a man named Suffolk here—no one has seen him within the past three months.

"So nearly as I can estimate, the entire amount the scoundrels have invested in this huge swindling scheme does not exceed $10,000. That includes the machinery on the ground at the Eagle and Hawk mines. It is entirely safe to assume in view of the foregoing discoveries that the contract shown for the $200,000 worth of machinery to be furnished by a New York concern is also a forgery.

"The further I get into this business, the clumsier it seems to me. The swindlers evidently had made up their minds to get out of the country the moment they got the money. I can come to no other conclusion.

"I have also discovered important facts bearing upon the murder which I will reserve for a future letter."

Maxwell's theory concerning the murder was shaken somewhat by the occurrences of the past two days. Will Ford began to loom up in an unexpected way. Billy Barnes' story especially excited his doubts. As he was walking to the postoffice to deposit his letter Ford's strange oath and the subsequent encounter in New York recurred to him with peculiar force.

It was possible that Latimore was really killed, and that Ford committed the crime. A man that would travel all the way to New York and take as great pains to conceal the truth as Ford evidently had was capable of any sacrifice to gratify his revenge. Maxwell's resolve to get at the truth concerning the affair in the east was so overpowering that he deemed it worth the effort to try and find papers of the dates he derived in Cripple Creek. It was a forlorn hope, but he would leave nothing by trying and he would gain time if he were successful.

He began at the postoffice and failed. He tried the bank, the hotel, and several stores; the papers were not within his reach. What was much stranger than inability to find a paper of any of the dates sought was the scant knowledge people possessed of Will Ford. Scarcely a man could remember just how Ford looked, he was a chance visitor in Cripple Creek at best remembered chiefly on account of his recklessness.

But after all it was not so strange people had something of more importance than to charge their memories with the appearance of the candidates that loomed up every day for the transient honors enjoyed by the "bad" men who studded each other out like so many candles.

Maxwell was crossing the main street with his eyes on the ground in a thing very unusual, when he felt some one seize his hand.

"Glad to see you again. How are you? How are you making it? Any progress?"

It was Alexander, Alexander looking rugged and hearty.

Maxwell was glad to return his hearty hand-shake.

"Very well in every way," Maxwell replied. I need not ask you how you are coming up."

Just the man I want. Have you half an hour you can give me?"

"An hour if you like."

"I want you for a witness. Come."

Alexander led him to a saloon. The doors were wide open; the saloon was, as Alexander aptly remarked, "thick enough to cut."

Alexander led the way to a back room; he seemed to be familiar with the premises.

"You seem to know the way," Maxwell remarked.

"I ought to considering how much Paradise tobacco I've sold here." A flabby looking man was seated in the room beside a table. Alexander seated himself in one chair, pointing out another for his friend.

"This is a friend of mine, Mr. Swett."

"Glad to meet you."

The flabby man extended a huge hand.

"Where are your friends, Mr. Swett?"

"They'll be back soon. What'll your friend have to drink?"

"I'll take whisky," said Maxwell promptly, thereby raising himself greatly in the flabby man's estimation.

The conversation was meaningless for a time; Maxwell wondered what it was he was to witness. Nothing was said by any one of a business nature. He was enlightened suddenly, however, when the talk turned upon B.

"By the way," said Alexander carelessly, "when was it you said you were in Bilchester?"

"A few weeks ago—on the 6th of April it was I got there."

"Did you say you met Bob Cole the e?"

"I did—met Bob Cole and another man I didn't expect to see in Bilchester. I saw Alf. Latimore there."

"You know Alf pretty well."

"I ought to—lived in the same camp with Alf. Latimore three months. A man gets to know another pretty well in three months."

"It isn't often old 'pards' meet that way in a big city. I dare say you had quite a time of it—painted the town, eh?"

"Not much. It wasn't that kind of a meeting." The flabby man smiled a peculiar smile—it was a leer.

"My friend and I will be much obliged to you if you will witness this paper," said Alexander suddenly producing a paper.

"Glad to accommodate you."

Alexander produced a fountain pen, spread the paper before Mr. Swett and that individual with some difficulty managed to sign his name to the paper.

"Thank you," said Alexander. Mr. Swett straightened himself as he resumed. "It wasn't that kind of a meeting—just the contrary."

"There wasn't any trouble there?"

"Well, I was looking for it. You see they wasn't any too friendly them two."

"Some old quarrel about a claim that wasn't worth quarreling about likely."

"There you are out—I don't just know myself what it was about."

"But you had an idea."

"I had an idea, as you say, and I bet I wasn't a mile off. When two men quarrel like Alf and Bob Cole, the chances are a thousand to one it's about a woman."

Here Mr. Swett nodded his head in a profound way calculated to impress his listeners that he knew a good deal about human nature.

"The funniest part of it was they could not help telling me."

"Take another Mr. Swett."

"I'm agreeable." As he raised his glass Mr. Swett nodded gravely to the friends, who returned the compliment.

"Now this is social like. Them friends you saw here, they're so infernal afraid of the Colorado atmosphere that they can't drink more'n twice in two hours."

"Talking about Alf Latimore and Cole—first Bob he comes to me and says, 'See Alf Latimore, it's a blamed good thing we ain't out in Colorado.' I know just as well what he meant as if he'd said it. And inside of half an hour Cole hadn't left me more than five minutes when up comes Latimore, and says 'What in the hell d'you suppose that Cole's doing here. I wish I had him out on our old camp. I'd settle his hash mighty quick.' That was the sort of a meeting it was. They kept a good place apart from each other, Bob, he promised to leave town on the same day with me—he didn't show up, though; came off without him. Haven't seen Bob since—nor nobody else round here that I know of has seen him.

Alexander touched Maxwell's foot.

"Men are very foolish to quarrel that way," said Alexander.

"I suppose it doesn't make any difference to either of them where they are?"

Maxwell observed drily.

Mr. Swett stared at him.

"Well, it could to some people if they had claims worth ten or twelve thousand dollars. Cole's been offered more than that for his—and Alf, well he struck his first real streak of luck just about a month before I met him in Bilchester. Why," continued Mr. Swett, whom the whisky made garrulous, "Alf took three thousand dollars out of his claim in a week."

"And exhausted it likely," Maxwell remarked in a way that offended the flabby man. He turned to Alexander.

"I guess your friend isn't none too well informed about Cripple Creek diggings."

"Just learning?" Maxwell looked at Mr. Swett anxiously, as if desirous of further information.

"Well, Alf was offered five thousand dollars for a quarter interest just before he left Cripple Creek on a trip East."

"I daresay you are both in New York trying to sell their claims."

Maxwell looked at Alexander as he said this; Alexander nodded.

"That's what I say," Mr. Swett echoed, "I tell the boys like as not they'll never come back until they are dead broke, then they'll do just as the rest do, take the pick and shovel again."

The flabby man laughed at his own wit; Alexander and Maxwell joined him in the laughter, and five minutes later Maxwell and his friend were on the street again breathing the free air.

"Now I will explain to you," said Alexander, taking a letter from his pocket; "read that."

The letter was from a friend who was a relative of Cole's, and who expressed great concern about Cole. He had never been heard of after walking out of his hotel in Bil

Question Bureau.

RULES.—1.—Real name and address must be written with every question. 2.—Only one question at a time. 3.—Don't ask for addresses of persons, or or firms, nor where to buy or sell anything, for such answers are free advertising. 4.—Don't ask about the reliability of any person or firm. 5.—We reserve the right to reject any question whose answer would not be of general interest; and will answer no mathematical problems, questions of law, etc. 6.—No answers by mail.

Samples of Money Fallacies.

T. R. S., of Glenn's Ferry, Idaho, sends us a long letter "pitching into" statements made in an editorial entitled "Free Silver Futility," in Weekly Blade of December 25. He uses abusive language freely, and then asks certain questions, which we reproduce and number, for convenience in reply:

1. "Who told you that the United States coinage laws defined a dollar to be 25.8 grains of standard gold?

2. "Where did you get your information that inspired this doleful prophecy. Therefore, if this resolution were enacted into law * * * it would at once drive all our gold out of circulation?' Didn't the hired advocates of the money lenders make this same prediction when the Bland-Allison silver law was enacted?"

3. "What is the reason the 16 to 1 dollars are still worth 100 cents to everybody in this country except the great robbers?"

4. "You assert that "the cost of the war was hundreds of millions more than it would have been had we been able to get along without greenbacks." If we had been able to get along without men, provisions, or powder, it would have been less, no doubt. And if we had undertaken to borrow gold to pay expenses, as Cleveland, Rothschilds & Co. are doing now, it would have been vastly more."

5. "You go on to say: 'Every dollar of indebtedness now owing in the United States was contracted on a gold basis, and MUST BE PAID ON THAT BASIS.' The concluding phrase is capitalized because no one really knows that part of the assertion to be untrue. But the balance of the sentence is false in every sense."

We will now answer briefly the above queries seriatim:

1.—The authority for the statement is section 3511, Revised Statutes of the United States, enacted June 22, 1874, which is the law to-day. It says: "The gold coins of the United States shall be a one-dollar piece, which, at the standard weight of 25.8 grains, shall be the unit of value." Then it enumerates the other gold coins in order.

2.—Any man who is informed of the history of money knows that a coin of final redemption will buy only the value of the bullion in it. To give silver free coinage at 16 to 1, and give the same power as gold now has in all respects, would do precisely as the greenbacks did in the war. They drove coin to a premium, and out of circulation, as every man old enough to remember those years knows very well. The coin did not really get any scarcer, nor would it buy more of any article; the greenbacks depreciated, that was all. And so the silver dollar would drop to its bullion value—now about 54 cents in gold—and all treasury notes, silver certificates, and national bank notes would drop with it. Gold would disappear at once as currency. Every one familiar with history knows this result would follow. There is not a case in the world's history but proves this. We challenge the production of one case.

We are not aware the same thing was predicted of the Bland-Allison bill in 1878. It was said of the original Bland bill, which was a free coinage measure, pure and simple; and it was true of that. We do not recall its being said of the bill after Allison's amendment was added to it. We ask for proof.

3.—The reason the silver dollar buys as much as the gold dollar has been stated over and over in this paper, and is clearly understood. It is because it can be instantly redeemed in gold. Any business man, or the treasury itself, can furnish Sherman notes or treasury notes in exchange for silver dollars; and it redeems these notes in gold. As long as the government will do that, and hold the silver dollars up to gold, all is right; but if it would refuse to redeem its notes in gold, but compel the holders to take silver dollars, flat day the silver dollar would fall to its bullion value.

4.—It may be that we were obliged, by the exigencies of the war, to raise a forced loan by the issue of irredeemable paper "irredeemable paper" means without the date of redemption stated, but left to the pleasure of the borrower), and giving it legal tender power. But it was simply a dire necessity of war, recognized so at the time. It is hard to estimate the loss with any accuracy, but it has been enormous. If it had been possible to float bonds to raise the money, this loss would have been saved. It may be, as we said above, that this was impossible. But in any case the greenbacks have cost far more than any other form of loan, and there is no reason whatever for not getting rid of them as early as possible.

5.—We cannot understand why you deny a fact which should be familiar to you. The gold dollar has been the standard of values since 1873, by actual law; do you know of any new or personal debt in existence incurred before that time? And, before that, the gold dollar had been the actual standard, made so by commerce, since the coinage law of 1834. Why deny the plain fact that there is not a debt in existence in the United States but has been incurred on the gold basis? Ever since 1834, save during the war period, when business men talked of "dollars," they referred to the purchasing power of a gold dollar.

After indulging in more abuse, the above correspondent says:

"We object to the contraction of the currency, no matter by what means it is accomplished; because it robs the masses of wealth for the benefit of the creditor class, and that is all there is to the whole question, and you must know this."

Here is another fallacy. The free coinage of silver at 16 to 1 would not contract the currency, at once to such a degree as to stop business. It would drive at once all the gold out of circulation—something like $800,000,000 at one stroke! Then it would cut the purchasing power of all silver and paper money almost in half and thus actually that much contract the currency left!

Why talk about "contracting the currency," when there is more money in circulation than we ever had before? Not only a greater number of dollars, but a greater per capita, since 1890, than ever before in our history?

It is lamentable to see men grow wildly angry, like this correspondent, over imaginary evils. This is not a question whose discussion can be advanced by abuse or falsehood. If men would only inform themselves on it, they would see that The Blade is right. It is working for what it honestly and sincerely believes to be the best interests of the people of the United States, and time will prove its position right.

The "Endless Chain."

J. A. D., Westcliffe, Col., asks: "Here is a question of general interest, and not well understood in this vicinity. If the recommendations of President Cleveland had been carried out, to fund the legal tenders, doing away with the "endless chain," how would the $100,000,000 gold reserve been kept intact—of course participating a revenue sufficient to run the government?"

The funding of the legal tenders would do away entirely with the gold reserve. The proposition was to pay off the currency notes, issuing bonds to get the money to do it with. The "gold reserve" is simply a red-suttion fund. If the notes were all redeemed there would be no need of such a fund. You must not forget that these notes are a part of the national debt.

The only two objections that can be raised against the plan are: First, that these notes are a loan which bears no interest, and hence are cheaper to the people than bonds; second, that it would contract the volume of the currency.

Neither objection is a valid one. As to the first, we have issued bonds within a little over two years, for more than half the volume of these notes, in order to maintain the gold reserve, and still owe every dollar of the notes. It would be cheaper, in the long run, to the people, to fund and retire them.

As to the second, there ought to be a large extension of the banking system into the agricultural sections of the country. The new bonds would serve as the basis for the increase in the number of national banks, and their notes would keep the volume of the currency up to its normal. Another splendid thing would be accomplished. As it is now, the treasury is keeping the gold reserve of the country. With the necessity for the gold reserve abolished, the banks would have to keep their own gold reserves. The redemption of national bank notes by the treasury should be at once, one time abolished (except of failed banks). Then there would be no congestion of money in the cities. Each bank having to redeem its own notes over its own counter, its notes would circulate more largely at home, gold would be more evenly in circulation, and the general financial condition of the country be far more sound and solid.

What Sherman Said.

"One of Sherman's Bummers," Waitsburg, Wash., has our thanks for this answer to a query in Bureau of Weekly Blade of March 9:

"Several years ago I saw the synopsis of a speech of Gen. Sherman to the graduating class at West Point, in which the general said: 'I have seen war enough, but you will see wars which will so far exceed what I have seen as to make mine forgotten.' I can't say in what year this speech was made, but it contained no reference to the end of the century; and it was plain he did not mean a civil war, but a gigantic struggle between American republicanism and European monarchies. I thought the general had in mind the alleged conversation between Nicholas I. of Russia and Senator Douglas, in which the czar said there would be a great war of the world against monarchy in which the United States would take a leading part, and that in consequence of this war the world would become all Cossack or all American."

So far, so good. Now, will some one find the year in which that graduating address was made, and the exact words of General Sherman?

Reprinting Poems.

M. M.: We cannot reprint "Brave Boys Are They." There are several cheap volumes of war songs, containing both words and music of it and a hundred others. The other poem was printed in "Old Favorites" last year.

We have over 200 requests for the printing of very many different poems under the head "Old Favorites." We are trying to comply with these requests in the order in which they came. There is no use in sending any more requests, for it will take over a year to comply with those we have on hand. We can devote but very little space to this, as the most of the requests are for reprinting poems which have appeared in The Blade in past years, and it is unjust to old subscribers to take space to reprint things they have already had.

Tobacco Users.

J. P. S., Armour, N. C., asks "whether the leading men and women who lived used tobacco? Such characters as Washington, Jefferson, Tennyson, Bacon, Webster, Abncraft, Spurgeon, Lincoln, Grant, etc.?"

Such a question is exceedingly difficult to answer with regard to historical characters, for their biographers do not deal in such petty personal details. Whether Jefferson and Washington smoked we do not know, but it was the fashion then to take snuff, and probably they did so. Tennyson smoked a pipe. Webster used it as snuff. Lincoln chewed tobacco, and Grant was an inveterate smoker, choosing the largest and strongest cigars. As a rule, the men of affairs of the world use tobacco, generally now in the form of cigars.

Rare Coins.

F. W., Mechanics Grove, Pa.: We have no information as to any premium on foreign coins, and it is useless to send us questions about them. Consult a coin dealer. The larger silver coin of which you send us a drawing, is a peso, or dollar of the reign of Charles IV of Spain, dated 1770. The smaller silver coin is a 50-centime piece—a half-franc—of Napoleon III, Emperor of France.

The copper cent of 1794 is worth 10 cents.

J. H. C., Kalamazoo, Mich.: There is no premium in business on any issue of greenbacks. Perhaps collectors of curiosities will pay a slight premium, but we have not heard of any.

This Year's Republican Vote.

R. A. S., Titusville, Pa., wants opinion of this estimate that if McKinley is nominated "he will poll 1,000,000 more votes than any other man in the United States."

W. A. B., Deersville, O., says: "I estimate that the Republican candidate for President next November will receive 750,000 more votes than Gen. Harrison received in 1892, or, in round numbers, 5,911,874 votes. Do you think it will reach that number?"

The popular vote at the Presidential election of 1892 was as follows:

Cleveland, Dem.	5,556,918
Harrison, Rep.	5,176,108
Weaver, Pop.	1,041,028
Bidwell, Pro.	264,133
Wing, Socialist Labor	21,164

The Populist vote will be less this year, and so will the Democratic vote. Our own opinion is that the Republican popular vote will exceed that of 1892 by about 500,000.

Tablean Lights.

G. I. R., Haven, Kan.: We strongly recommend that you ask some good druggist to put up the mixtures for making tableau lights, as they are always dangerous to mix in unskilled hands. There are none which are not irritating to the throat. Here are approved formulae:

White fire—Saltpetre, 18 parts by weight; flowers of sulphur, 10 parts; black sulphide of antimony, 3 parts; quick lime, 4 parts. The lime is not to be clacked, but must be fresh and finely pulverized in a mortar just before using. The saltpetre must be very carefully dried in an iron pan until it loses its water of crystallization, and be reduced to a powder.

Red fire—Nitrate of strontia, 13 parts by weight; flowers of sulphur, 1 part; fine gunpowder, 1 part. The nitrate of strontia must be treated as directed above for saltpetre.

Miscellaneous.

C. B., Central Station, W. Va.: We know of no such book.

A. C. R., Stony Ridge, O.: The nearest recruiting office for the regular army is at the barracks, Columbus, O.

H. C. D., North Baltimore, O.: There are no statistics of that kind for the entire world. Any figures that might be given are mere guess work.

M. M., Minersville, O.: Cincinnati is the largest city in Ohio. There is nothing reliable concerning the population of any city since the census of 1890. All figures are merely estimates.

W. W. B., Selma, Kan., asks: "Will you please explain through what process it is necessary to put cedar seeds that they should grow?" We are not posted. Who can send us the information for publication?

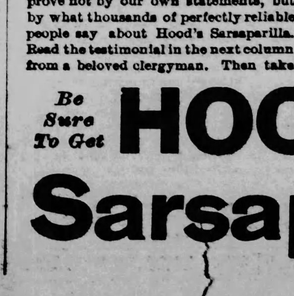
E. G. S., Livermore, Cal.: The term "Irish-American" refers to American citizens of Irish descent. Argon is the name of the new element—a gas—discovered in the atmosphere last year by Lord Kelvin. The use of "toadsticker" for a knife is slang, indicative of contempt—that it is of inferior quality. Don't mix questions. Several questions like the above will go at one time, but not on different topics. See Rules.

SIR JOHN MILLAIS.

Leighton's Successor as President of the Royal Academy.

Sir John Millais, the newly elected president of the Royal academy of England, was born in 1829, a year before the late president, Lord Leighton.

His parents came from Jersey to London when Millais was a mere youngster. He had then shown signs of talent, but when his parents took him to the president of the academy that gentleman advised them off-hand to bring up the boy as a chimney-sweep and not as an artist. After he had seen young Millais's sketches he changed his verdict. At the age of nine, Millais won a royal prize, and at 17 one of his paintings was hung in the academy. Millais, Ruskin, Hunt and Rossetti were the leaders of the pre-Raphaelites. Millais's and Ruskin's domestic histories were interwoven in a rather embarrassing manner. Ruskin's wife fell in love with Millais, who returned the affection. Observing this, Ruskin allowed her to get a divorce, and marry Millais.



SIR JOHN MILLAIS.

Recent Literature.

Readers desiring any further information whatever about these volumes will please address the publishers, whose address is given in every case, and not inquire of The Blade. We do not deal in books.

A new edition of the Woodlanders by Thomas Hardy has recently been issued. A sketch of the story may prove interesting, even to those who read it when it first appeared: The scene is laid in Wessex, in England. The story turns on the contrasts between selfish and unselfish love in men, and between two women, one pure and the other passionate. Grace Melbury, the daughter of a dealer in timber and bark, had been educated "like a lady" as the result of her father's ambition for her. When she came home from school she was under a quasi engagement to marry Giles Winterborne, a cider manufacturer. Her father's ambition led him to break off the match, and he succeeded in marrying Grace to Dr. Fitzpiers, who, although poor, was descended from an old "county" family. Dr. Fitzpiers left his wife for Mrs. Charmond, a young widow, and Grace—finding she loved Giles—tried to get a divorce, but failed. Dr. Fitzpiers, after Mrs. Charmond's death on the continent, returned to Grace. She fled from him, taking refuge in Giles's cottage. He gave the place up to her and died of fever caught while sleeping in the field exposed to a rain storm. After a time Grace was reconciled to her husband, and Giles was forgotten. Published by Harper & Bros., New York city.

The Apotheosis of Mr. Tyrawley, by E. Livingston Prescott, is a story which is very well told, contrasting the cant and hypocrasy of the social Pharisee with the sincerity and devotion of an ignorant fellow who has a sense of honor. The story runs in this wise: Infelix Tyrawley is a tall, handsome fellow of weak physique and slender purse, who has succeeded in living by his wits for 33 years, a gambler and card-sharp like his father. He had the fortune to be at hand when Miss Nina St. Just and her brother Bertie fell into the sea from the pier where they sat angling. At the risk of his life and at the subsequent expense of an attack of pleurisy Tyrawley rescues both from drowning. Yearning after a life of respectability, he is aided by Bluff Alec MacAdam, M. D., a short, stout Scotsman with a big, generous heart, who becomes the gentlemanly vagabond's devoted friend. Pursued by his reputation Tyrawley loses his entree into the house of the graceful St. Just, and is dismissed from positions secured for him by his friend MacAdam. The doctor saves him from an attempt at suicide, and nurses him through a long illness. Again he begins life in an humble way, far from home, buoyed by the assurance that Nina loves him. After a long struggle he succeeds in baffling heredity and compelling fortune, is found and adopted by the wealthy brother of his dead mother, secures social position, and marries the beautiful and faithful Nina. The volume is published by Harper and Brothers, New York City.

Three Gringos in Venezuela and Central America, by Richard Harding Davis, is a very interesting story of the travels of three intelligent Americans through these countries, describing what they saw there in a most graphic and interesting manner. The late dispute with regard to the boundary question renders the volume of much present value aside from its own intrinsic merit. Everybody will enjoy the description of the drawing of the prizes in the New Orleans Lottery in Honduras; the attack upon the alligators; the Venezuelan idea of the Monroe doctrine and the trip on the mountain railroad. The book is handsomely printed and bound, with many excellent illustrations. It is published by Harper & Brothers, New York City.

Greenland Icefields and Life in the North Atlantic is a most valuable, as well as entertaining contribution to the science of geology by Dr. Frederick Wright, author of the Ice Age in North America, and Warren Upham. It contains a new discussion of the causes of the ice age which will be found very interesting. The following heads of chapters will give some idea of the subjects treated of: The Ice of the Labrador Current; The Coast of Labrador; Spitzbergen Ice in Davis Strait; Excursions on the Coast of Greenland; The Coast in Detail; The Eskimos of the North Atlantic; Europeans in Greenland; The Plants of Greenland; The Animals of Greenland, and The Causes of the Ice Age. The illustrations are numerous and excellent, and there are several good maps which aid the reader in gaining a good idea of the topography of the country. D. Appleton & Co., New York City.

The X Jewel is a Scottish romance of the days of James VI., by the Hon. Frederick Monteriff. Andrew Eviot is a Scotch soldier of fortune who was commissioned by the king to find a jeweled St. Andrews cross of great value which he had lost. The captain went to the castle of the Earl of Arran, a secret enemy of his sovereign, where he met Jean Ucbiltree, an heiress and a ward of the earl. He recovered the jewel, only to have it stolen from him. The Countess of Arren "Jezebel", caused one of her friends to challenge Eviot, and in the duel the friend was killed. Eviot then joined a party of Arran's enemies, and took part in the siege of Arran's castle, which preceded the Earl's loss of power. The story ends with Jean and Eviot together, and a wedding is to follow. This is also a publication of the Harpers.

Out of the Past, by E. Anson More, is in the nature of an allegory setting forth the unending conflict between good and evil. The story gives in outline the possible life of a Brahmin of the earlier times, and the information given accords with the belief of the orthodox Brahmin. Two college-bred young men while traveling in India lose their guide from the bite of a cobra. One goes for help; the other meanwhile entering a cavern discovers the pillow of a mummy old writings which he takes to a priest for translation, and he learns that from the Hindu point of view women are "the cause of all trouble;" that even India finds them "subtle in wickedness beyond his cunning." The author treats of the origin of Suttee—burning the wife with her dead husband. Thought-transference is touched upon in a new and fascinating way. The story is full of incident, and its descriptions are graphic. It is published by the Arena company, of Boston. Price, cloth $1.25; paper, 50 cents.

The Courage of her Convictions is a novel by Caroline A. Huling, assisted by Therese Stewart, M. D. This is a decidedly unique story of an advanced woman with decidedly peculiar ideas. With the "courage of her convictions" she tests her theories and dares do what she deems right. Many leading reforms of the day are lightly touched upon in such a way as does not detract from the interest of the story. The book will entertain the thoughtless and arouse deep interest in those who can read between the lines. This reading between the lines is a necessity, otherwise the author will be greatly misunderstood. The frontispiece is an engraving of the Bodenhausen Madonna and Child. The volume contains over 200 pages and is neatly printed and bound. It is published by The Justitia Publishing Co., Aurora, Ill. Price, $1.25.

Regeneration is a reply to Max Nordeau whose book, Degeneration, has created so much comment. The author's name is not given, but the book is introduced by an introduction from the pen of Prof. Nicholas Murray Butler, of Columbia College. The writer of the book takes issue with Mr. Nordeau in his declarations regarding the proofs of the decadence of mankind. The latter considers the music of Wagner, the dramas of Ibsen, the romances of Zola, the art of the pre-Raphaelites, the mystics, the symbolists, the Parnassians are all classed together as among these proofs. The author of Regeneration has been most successful in his treatment of Nordeau's positions. As Prof. Butler says, "his view of life is more sane and better balanced than that of Nordeau," and many readers will most cordially agree with this opinion. The volume cannot fail to do much good in setting the disturbed thought of people in better condition. G. P. Putnam's Sons, New York City, are the publishers.

1896 and the Five Redemption Years is further described upon the title page as A Blade o' Grass, by W. H. Bishop, author of The Garden of Eden, U. S. A., in an eloquent arraignment of the churches for their adherence to creeds and forms, while leaving undone what humanity has needed in order to rise out of present unfortunate conditions. The volume is divided into three parts: The Wasted Centuries; A Century to be Redeemed, and The Tale of The Century Bells. Crusader Publishing Co., Toledo, O.

In American Men of Letters, from the ever graceful pen of Charles Dudley Warner, comes the biography of Bayard Taylor. The volume gives a view of the life of one who did much to interest this people in those of other lands, because the stories of what he saw always wore the imprint of reality. This presentation of Mr. Taylor's life and works gives incidentally many pictures of social and literary matters several decades ago, and for this reason cannot fail to win readers. It is published by Houghton, Mifflin & Co., Boston.

In Search of Quiet, by Walter Frith, is a story written in the form of a journal, the writer being supposed to be an English barrister who goes to a small village in order to work at his book on "Weights and Measures." The story is that of village life, and most unexpectedly a tragedy develops. Fanny Harewood is betrayed by Banquier, the novelist, and her father—Major Ross, who has deserted her mother years before for another woman, and changed his name—reveals himself and takes charge of her. The descriptions of scenery and the sharp and sarcastic pictures of the characters are all good. Harper & Bros., New York city.

FOR A NEW WOMAN

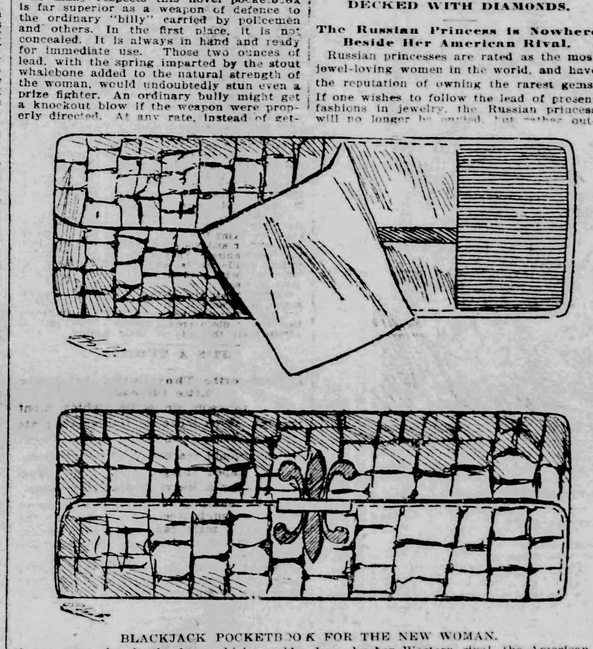
A POCKETBOOK THAT SECRETES A POWERFUL WEAPON.

Just the Thing to Protect Herself From Highwaymen and Street "Mashers"—A Knockout Blow.

At last the new woman is provided with a weapon of defence, by the use of which she may defend herself from highwaymen, "mashers," the brute who annoys her in a street car, and the other types of people who contribute so much to feminine misery. Every woman may now carry a "blackjack," or what the police call a "billy."

A picture of what a manufacturer is pleased to call "the woman's new defender" is given on this page. The illustrations are somewhat smaller than the originals. One of the pictures shows what is, to all appearances, nothing more than one of the long alligator-skin pocketbooks now so much in vogue. The second picture, in which a portion of the interior of the innocent looking purse is shown, reveals the fact that there is snugly fitted into the book a compact piece of lead, weighing over two ounces.

Running lengthwise through the pocketbook is a stout piece of whalebone, which at one end is securely fastened to the piece of lead and is also fastened in the stitching at the other end. It is partially concealed. It is always in hand and ready for immediate use. Those two ounces of lead, with the spring imparted by the stout whalebone added to the natural strength of the woman, would undoubtedly stun even a prize fighter. An ordinary bully might get a knockout blow if the weapon were properly directed. At any rate, instead of getting a mere slap in the face, which would be harmless enough, he would be so dazed that he wouldn't know just what had struck him, and he would in all probability beat a precipitate retreat.



BLACKJACK POCKETBOOK FOR THE NEW WOMAN.

"This pocketbook is not, however, merely a weapon for a lady to defend herself with," said the manufacturer. He then opened the book and showed that it contained the usual compartments to be found in a lady's pocketbook. "The idea was a woman's, and I think it is most practicable. There is a common sense reason for its existence, and I anticipate a big run on the pocketbooks when their existence is more generally known. As yet I have manufactured but a few of them, which I placed in the large retail dry goods stores, and they were bought up eagerly."

An oval-shaped purse, which has a safety strap on the back, so that it cannot be snatched from a lady's hand, was also designed by the same manufacturer.

ABOUT THE SPEED OF TRAINS.

How It is Affected by the Diurnal Revolution of the Earth.

It is as far from Buffalo to New York as it is from New York to Buffalo, says the Literary Digest, yet, if we are to believe the reasoning of Alexander Hogg, a correspondent of the Railway Gazette, the railway run can be made more easily in the former direction, because, the speed of the eastward moving train being added to that of the rotating earth, the reduction of weight is thus distributed over a greater. We quote such portions of Mr. Hogg's letter as do not involve difficult mathematics:

"In 1891 the New York Central and Hudson River railroad train, 436½ miles in 425 minutes and 42 seconds, or an average of 61¼ miles an hour. The weight of the train was 460,000 pounds. The same company, on September 11, 1893, made the remarkable run of the same 436½ miles in 407 2-3 minutes; this was an average of 64.26 miles per hour.

"The New York Central, in starting both times from New York city, unnecessarily retarded its own speed. From Albany to Buffalo, due west, the train encountered not only the prevailing west wind, but the force of the earth's revolution eastward.

"Owing to the diurnal rotation of the earth, bodies at the equator press toward the earth with 288-289ths of the pressure they would were the earth deprived of its rotation. Therefore, if the rotation of the earth could be accelerated until it took only 1-17th of the present sidereal day to make a complete turn or revolution, the centrifugal tendency would be increased (17) two-fold; that is, it would be 289 times as great as now, and bodies at the equator would have no pressure downward, or, as we say, would weigh nothing. This rate of revolution would not be sufficient to deprive bodies anywhere else of their entire weight.

"Now let us apply this to railroad trains. A train running east, at the equator, would be relieved to the extent of 1-289th of its weight on a still earth. If running due west, the result would be (less). And the difference of weight between the same train, running east and west with the same velocity would be (a certain) fraction of its total absolute pressure. Example: Take a train running, say, 70 feet per second, or nearly 48 miles per hour; this fraction would not be far from 1-1000th part; in running 90 miles per hour it would be 1-1280th part, and if running 100 miles per hour, or 147 feet per second, it would be 1-783th part, nearly; and it would be greater and greater as the speed increased, and still greater as both speed and weight of the train are increased. The train of the New York Central was 337 feet long, or about 100 yards.

"This calculation, it will be observed, as said, will be true for the equator. The New York Central train ran from Albany to Buffalo upon about the 42nd parallel of latitude, and would be about 4-10ths as great."

Other correspondents agree with Mr. Hogg in principle, though not accepting all his mathematics. One of them ends his letter with the following rather jocose suggestion:

"It is well known that when the moon is above us it draws movable objects away from the earth, and when it is on the opposite side of the earth it draws the earth away from movable objects here, thereby causing the tides. It might be well to suggest to the New York Central officers that, as the tides travel from east to west, they may perhaps offset the disadvantages under Mr. Hogg's theory by starting when the position of the moon is propitious, and, as they would keep in the tide while going west, they may still be able to make fast time going west, even if the engineers, or, indeed, the engines themselves, learn of disadvantages of centrifugal force when they are trying to make Buffalo."

THE BUTTERFLY OF FASHION.

Oh, see that pretty butterfly,
With wings of dazzling sheen,
Glorious in gold and green!
The graceful form, the wondrous dye,
Were made to captivate the eye.
There's nothing else, I ween,
On earth to match it.
I'd like to catch it,
But if I bruised it, I should cry.

And was it but a chrysalis?
I seem to note a change!
I'm sure it's wondrous strange
To see a creature such as this
Assume a figure of a miss,
No more the air to range,
But walk the street,
In seeming sweet,
And make mouths water for a kiss.

The butterfly's a maiden rare!
Instead of shining wings
Extraordinary things
Are on her shoulders, I declare!
To crush them now, I'd never dare.
A sudden longing springs
That maid to capture,
And find with rapture,
What makes those skirts stand out so fair!
—New Orleans Picayune.

DECKED WITH DIAMONDS.

The Russian Princess is Nowhere Beside Her American Rival.

Russian princesses are rated as the most jewel-loving women in the world, and have the reputation of owning the rarest gems. If one wishes to follow the lead of present fashions in jewelry, the Russian princess will no longer be envied, but rather out-done, by her Western rival, the American, according to Vogue. Diamonds are to be seen on every familiar article. As for the standard ornaments, brooches, bracelets, necklaces, earrings, the stones selected for them in many cases equal crown jewels. Watch chains, snuff boxes, lorgnettes, opera glasses, sleeve links, buckles, clasps, garter fastenings, mountings for fans, card cases, riding whips, umbrellas, perfume bottles, prayer books, and even thimbles and coin purses are not considered fine enough unless incrusted with small diamonds.

As for watches, the cases are ablaze. The contrast to which these wonderfully brilliant examples of gay enamelings, sparkling with gems of every color, are pinned, receives an unwonted illumination. Nothing more beautiful can be imagined than this bijou watch swinging by lovely linked jewels, with pin above, the perfection of beauty and workmanship, adding itself to the whole like some royal decoration. Pearls outrank diamonds for the throat in full evening dress. No one may hold up her head without at least one string, while five, seven or nine strings are quite common.

THE EAGLE OVERHEAD.

Above the swelling, tossing flag
On Freedom's pole outblown,
With talons stretched and eyes ablaze,
The eagle guards its own.

From side to side its fearsome head
In restless watch is swung,
And woe betide the foe on whom
That burning glance is flung.

Its pinions sweep from sea to sea,
Its eyes from pole to pole,
And what its talons do not clutch
They shall in time control.

Beneath its wing America
Sits regnant and adored,
The olive in her strong, white hand,
Within her reach the sword.

She hears the ice-encumbered waves
Break on the Arctic shore,
And through Magellan's stormy strait
She hears the tempest roar.

She sees Hawaii's lovely face
Turned to her from the sea,
And Carribean's dreamy isles
Linked to her destiny.

And over all, as in a dream,
She sees her colors fly,
Beneath its ever-watching wing,
Beneath its steady eye.

And, jealous of her future rule,
As of her present sway,
Imperial she lifts her hand
And bids the nations stay
—William Lloyd Coughtry in the New York Sun.

RULINGS IN PENSION CASES.

Assistant Secretary of the Interior Hands Down Opinions.

A number of new rulings in pension cases are made by Assistant Secretary of the Interior Reynolds in recent opinions.

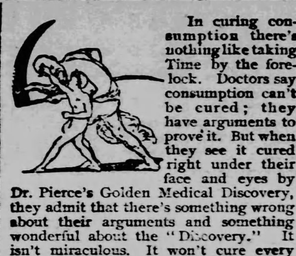
In disposing of a case of alleged disloyalty of a Tennesseean, the assistant secretary holds that involuntary service by a conscript does not bring a claimant for pension within the provisions of section 4716 of the revised statutes.

An honorable discharge from all service contracted to be performed during the war of the rebellion is held to be prerequisite to pension under the second section of the act of June 27, 1890, and the applicant's desertion from the United States service in 1863—a failure to receive the honorable discharge—bars his right to pension under that act. This, though affecting the claim because of desertion, reverses the action of the pension bureau, which dropped the claimant from the rolls "on the ground of the loss of evidence previously proved in the Confederate army."

The naval home in Philadelphia is declared by the department to be a naval hospital within the meaning of section 4813 of the revised statutes and pensions due to its inmates accordingly must be paid to the secretary of the Navy. It is held that there is just cause for complaint by the sailors there of discrimination by an act of Congress in favor of the soldier inmates, but the appeal for relief is directed to Congress instead of the department.

A claimant in the Eighth Missouri Infantry, who was shot by a civilian in consequence of remarks made by him relative to a quarrel then in progress between the civilian and another officer of the claimant regiment, is decided to have not been in the line of duty.

HILL'S RHEUMATISM AND GOUT CURE, greatest of remedies! one bottle cures you. HILL MEDICINE CO., 36 East 19th street, New York, N. Y. Send for circulars.



In curing consumption there's nothing like taking Time by the forelock. Doctors say consumption can't be cured; they have arguments to prove it. But when they see it cured right under their face and eyes by Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery, they admit that there's something wrong about their arguments and something wonderful about the "Discovery." It isn't miraculous. It won't cure every case; but it cures a suprisingly large percentage of cases, even when the patient is pretty far gone with a bad cough, and bleeding from the lungs, and reduced almost to a shadow. *Consumption is a blood disease.* The lungs want a fresh supply of pure rich blood and plenty of it; that is what the "Golden Medical Discovery" gives them. It is a blood-maker. It gives the blood-making functions power to produce a large quantity of the nourishing red corpuscles which make healthy *life-giving* blood. This stops the wasting; drives out the impurities; heals the ulceration and begins a rapid building-up process, of solid, substantial flesh and vital energy.

It isn't only consumptives who need the "Discovery." It cures every form of chronic blood-disease and all scrofulous and eruptive affections.

MR. ISAAC E. DOWNS, of *Spring Valley, Rockland County, N. Y.*, writes: "For three years I had suffered from that terrible disease, consumption, and heart-disease. Before taking Doctor Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery I had wasted away to a skeleton; could not sleep nor rest, and many times wished to die to be out of my misery. Step by step, the signs and realities of returning health slowly but surely developed themselves while taking the 'Discovery.' Today I tip the scales at one-hundred-and-eighty-seven, and am well and strong. The 'Golden Medical Discovery' has also cured my daughter of a very bad ulcer located on the thigh. After trying almost everything without success we purchased three bottles of your 'Discovery' which healed it perfectly." Yours truly,

Isaac E. Downs

HALF BIRD, HALF BEAST

The Curious Bird Which Has Four Legs.

Nothing in the realm of natural history in late years excels in interest the announcement of the discovery in British Guiana of a bird with four legs, says the Popular Science News. The crested hoatzin, opisthocomus cristatus, the only survivor of a race of birds, several of which are known as fossils, inhabits the most secluded parts of the forests of South America, and it is probable that it is owing to its retiring habits that it has outlived its congeners, as well as the fact that, feeding as it does upon wild arum leaves, its flesh acquires so offensive a smell and flavor as to have gained it the name of stinkbird, and to render it entirely unfit for food. It is a large bird, almost as large as a peacock, in fact, but is very seldom seen. Of deep, its loud, wailing cry is heard.

The chief peculiarity of the hoatzin consists in the fact that when it is hatched it possesses four well-developed legs, the front pair being of a reptilian character. The young birds leave the nest and climb about like monkeys over the adjoining limbs and twigs, and act and look more like tree-toads than birds.

After hatching the modification of the fore limbs begins, the claws of the digits falling off and the whole of the claw-like hands becoming flattened, change into wings. After this modification has taken place, and in a short time, not a vestige remains of the original character. As Prof. F. A. Lucas, in an admirable monograph on "Spurs and Claws" in a bulletin of the Smithsonian Institute, says:

"The adult birds not only have no claws upon their wings, but their thumbs, even, are so poorly developed that one would hardly suspect that in the nestlings we have the nearest approach to a quadruped found among existing birds."

Mr. J. J. Quelch, who studied them in British Guiana, tells us that soon after the hatching the well developed claws on the pollax and index are constantly in use for hooking and holding on to surrounding objects. The nestlings, when quite small are frequently found far away from any nest, climbing by the help of their clawed wings after the parent birds during feeding time.

One curious feature noticed with a nestling which had been upset in the river was its power of rapid swimming and diving when pursued. As soon as the hand was placed on it it dived rapidly into the dark water, in which it was impossible to see it, and arose at a distance more than a yard away, owing to the thick cover the bird's creature managed to evade all efforts to secure it, taking refuge eventually under the bushy growth, when it was impossible to pursue it. The prolonged immersion which a nestling will undergo instinctively and voluntarily, or which an adult bird will endure in an attempt to drown it seems quite remarkable.

THE FOUR-FOOTED BIRDS OF BRITISH GUIANA.

$100—Reward—$100.

The readers of this paper will be pleased to learn that there is at least one dreaded disease that science has been able to cure in all its stages and that is Catarrh. Hall's Catarrh Cure is the only positive cure now known to the medical fraternity. Catarrh being a constitutional disease, requires a constitutional treatment. Hall's Catarrh cure is taken internally, acting directly upon the blood and mucous surfaces of the system, thereby destroying the foundation of the disease, and giving the patient strength by building up the constitution and assisting nature in doing its work. The proprietors have so much faith in its curative powers that they offer One Hundred Dollars for any case that it fails to cure. Send for list of Testimonials. Address,

F. J. CHENEY & CO., Toledo, O.
Sold by Druggists, 75c.
Hall's Family Pills are the best.

AMERICAN WOMEN.

Described by Mr. Hall Caine—Comparisons With English Women.

Mr. Hall Caine says of his stay in the United States: "Many of my impressions of America, by the way, toppled down like a child's house of cards when I found myself actually in the country and among the people. A delightful nation to study in America—free and frank and full of originality. Of course, we all know and have always known, for the last century, at least, that Americans are clever; but I realized that as I go among them and see them in their homes how kindly, how young of heart they are as individuals.

Of American women I cannot be deeply enough impressed. It is only natural they should have become what they are—superior, intellectually, or, at any rate, superficially so, to the men. That is, of course, as a class. There are always so many exceptions to every rule. But the thing has come about as a consequence of man's putting woman—the American man, American woman—on a pedestal, and worshipping her. He has stayed below the pedestal and worked for her, and having time, if he was the ordinary man of business, to cultivate his mind and manner while he so worked. But she has had plenty of time, and she has made the best use of it. In our own country I consider that the reverse is the truth. The average Englishman is superior to the average English woman in intelligence and education. That is because he is likely to think of himself, and of his sons, before he thinks of his wife and daughters. And English women have consequently upheld him in his attitude toward them, until comparatively lately, at any rate. In America, on the contrary, I fancy that women have known their own value, and set it rather high, for a number of years—a couple of generations, at least." In personal appearance Mr. Caine find our women prettier, more attractive, more bewitching, than English women, but not so regularly beautiful. The straight, almost Greek nose, and the laughably lovely and naughty upper lip of the most perfect type of English girl I have not seen equalled in America, I must say."—Providence Journal.

—If the hair is falling out, or turning gray, requiring a stimulant with nourishing and coloring food, Hall's Vegetable Sicilian Hair Renewer is just the specific.

He Was In.

"John," said his wife, "you were out last night playing poker."

"No, I wasn't," he replied; "I was in—just $3."

The Farmstead.

INFORMATION WANTED.

Diarrhoea in Chicks—Cabbage Lice.

Mrs. I. C., Colorado: The most essential thing to prevent diarrhoea in chicks is warmth. If they have become chilled diarrhoea kills them off rapidly, especially when the parent fowls are not of sturdy stock. It is a good plan to keep the chicks near a stove for the first week—not too near it, of course. A flannel cloth should be laid over the bottom of the basket or box. Dampness will give chicks bowel complaint. Ten drops tincture of nux vomica to a quart of drinking water has been recommended for diarrhoea in chicks, but the editor thinks that but little can be done for a very young chick beyond proper feed and warmth. Nine chicks of ten that die, do so from ch

Talmage's Sermon.

DR. TALMAGE'S SERMON APPROPRIATE TO THE DAY.

"Who Can Stand Before This Cold?"—God's Holy Church Gives Warmth to All.

Washington, March 16.—The freezing blasts which have swept over the country at the time we expected spring weather makes this sermon especially appropriate. Dr. Talmage's text was Psalm cxlvii:17, "Who can stand before this cold?"

The almanac says that winter is ended and spring has come, but the winds, and the frosts, and the thermometer, in some places down at zero, deny it. The Psalmist lived in a more genial climate than this, and yet he must sometimes have been cut by the sharp weather. In this chapter he speaks of the snow like wool, the frost like ashes, the hailstones like marbles, and describes the congealment of lowest temperature. We have all studied the power of the heat. How few of us have studied the power of the frost! "Who can stand before this cold?" This challenge of the text has many times been accepted. October 19, 1812, Napoleon's great army began its retreat from Moscow. One hundred and fifty thousand men, fifteen thousand horses, six hundred pieces of cannon, forty thousand straggliers. It was bright weather when they started from Moscow, but soon something wrathier than the Cossacks swooped upon their flanks. An army of Arctic blasts, with icicles for bayonets and hailstones for shot, and commanded by voice of tempest, marched after them. The flying artillery of the heavens in pursuit. The troops at nightfall would gather into circles and huddle themselves together for warmth; but when the day broke they rose not, for they were dead, and the ravens came for their morning meal of corpses. The way was strewn with the rich stuffs of the East, brought as booty from the Russian capital. An invisible power seized one hundred thousand men and hurled them dead into the snowdrifts, and on the hard surfaces of the chill rivers, and into the maws of the dogs that had followed them from Moscow. The freezing horror which has appalled history was proof to all ages that it is a vain thing for any earthly power to accept the challenge of my text: "Who can stand before his cold?" In the middle of December, 1777, at Valley Forge, eleven thousand troops were, with frosted ears and frosted hands and frosted feet, without shoes, without blankets, lying on the white pillow of the snowbank. As during our civil war the cry was: "On to Richmond!" when the troops were not ready to march, so in the Revolutionary war there was a demand for wintry campaign until Washington lost his equilibrium and wrote emphatically: "I assure those gentlemen it is easy enough seated by a good fireside and in comfortable homes to draw out campaigns for the American army; but I tell them it is not so easy to lie on a bleak hillside, without blankets and without shoes."

One-half of the industries of our day are employed in battling inclemency of the weather. The furs of the North, the cotton of the South, the flax of our own fields, the wool of our own flocks, the coal from our own mines, the wood from our own forests, all employed in tatting these inclemencies, and still every winter, with blue lips and chattering teeth, answers: "None of us can stand before his cold." Now this being such a cold world, God sends out influences to warm it. I am glad that the God of the frost is the God of the heart, that the God of the snow is the God of the white blossoms, that the God of January is the God of June. The question as to how shall we warm this world up is a question of immediate and all-encompassing practicality. In this zone and weather there are so many fireless hearths, so many broken window panes, so many defective roofs, that sift the snow. Coal and wood and flannels and thick coats are better for warming up such a place than tracts and Bibles and creeds. Kindle that fire where it has gone out. Wrap something around those shivering limbs. Shoe those bare feet. Hat that bare head. Coat that bare back. Sleeve that bare arm. Nearly all the pictures of Martha Washington represent her in courtly dress as bowed to by foreign ambassadors, but Mrs. Kirkland, in her interesting book, gives a more inspiring portrait of Martha Washington. She comes forth from her husband's hut in the encampment, the hut 16 feet long by 14 feet wide—she comes forth from that hut to nurse the sick, to sew the patched garments, to console the soldiers dying of the cold. That is a better picture of Martha Washington. Hundreds of garments, hundreds of tons of coal, hundreds of glaziers at broken window sashes, hundreds of whole-souled men and women, are necessary to warm the wintry weather.

I want to have a great heater introduced into all your churches and all your homes throughout the world. It is a heater of divine patent. It has many pipes with which to conduct heat; and it has a door in which to throw the fuel. Once get this heater introduced, and it will turn the Arctic zone into the Temperate, and the Temperate into the tropics. It is the powerful heater, it is the glorious furnace of Christian sympathy. The question ought to be, instead of how much heat can we absorb? how much heat can we throw out? There are men who go through the world like icebergs. They freeze everything with their forbidding look. The hand with which they shake yours is as cold as the paw of a polar bear. If they float into a religious meeting, the temperature drops from 80 above to 10 degrees below zero. There are icicles hanging from their eyebrows. The float into a religious meeting and they chill everything with their jeremiads. Cold prayers, cold songs, cold greetings, cold sermons. Christianity on ice! The church a great refrigerator. Christians gone into winter quarters. Hibernation! On the other hand, there are people who go through the world like the breath of a spring morning. Warm greetings, warm prayers, warm smiles, warm Christian influence. There are such persons. We bless God for them. We rejoice in their companionship.

A general in the English army, the army having halted for the night, having lost his baggage, lay down tired and sick without any blanket. An officer came up and said, "Why, you have no blanket. I'll go and get you a blanket." He departed for a few moments and then came back and covered the general up with a very warm blanket. The general said, "Whose blanket is this?" The officer replied, "I got that from a private soldier in the Scotch regiment, Ralph McDonald." "Now," said the general, "you take this blanket right back to that soldier. He can no more do without it than I can do without it. Never bring to me the blanket of a private soldier." How many men like that general would it take to warm the world up? The vast majority of us are anxious to get more blankets, whether anybody else is blanketed or not. Look at the fellow-feeling displayed in the rocky defile between Jerusalem and Jericho in Scripture times. There a man who has been set upon by the bandits, and in the struggle to keep his property he has got wounded, and mauled, and stabbed, and he lies there half dead. A priest rides along. He sees him and says: "Why, what's the matter with that man? Why, he must be hurt, lying on the flat of his back. Isn't it strange that he should lie there? But I can't stop. I am on my way to temple services. Go along, you beast. Carry me up to my temple duties." After awhile a Levite comes up. He looks over and says: "Why, that man never lo very much hurt. Gashed on the forehead. What a pity. Stabbed under his arm. What a pity. Tut, tut! What a pity. Why, they have taken his clothes nearly away from him. But I haven't time to stop; I lead the choir up in the temple service. Go along, you beast. Carry me up to my temple duties." After awhile a Samaritan comes along—one who you might suppose through a national grudge might have rejected this poor wounded Israelite. Coming along he sees this man and says: "Why, that man must be terribly hurt. I see by his features he is an Israelite, but he is a man and he is a brother. Whoa!" says the Samaritan, and he gets down off the beast and comes up to this wounded man, and gets down on one knee, listens to see whether the heart of the unfortunate man is still beating, makes up his mind there is a chance for resuscitation, goes to work at him, takes out of his sack a bottle of oil and a bottle of wine, cleanses the wound with some wine, then pours some of the restorative into the wounded man's lips, then takes some oil and with it soothes the wound. After a while he takes off a part of his garments for a bandage. Now the sick and wounded man sits up, pale and exhausted, but very thankfully. Now the good Samaritan says: "You must get on my saddle, and I will walk." The Samaritan helps and tenderly steadies the wounded man until he gets him on toward the tavern, the wounded man holding on with the little strength he has left, ever and anon looking down at the good Samaritan and saying: "You are very kind. I had no right to expect this thing of a Samaritan when I am an Israelite; you are very kind to walk and let me ride."

Now they have come up to the tavern. The Samaritan, with the help of the landlord, assists the sick and wounded man to dismount and puts him to bed. The Bible says the Samaritan staid all night. In the morning, I suppose, the Samaritan went in to look how his patient was, and ask him how he passed the night. Then he comes out—the Samaritan comes out and says to the landlord: "Here is money to pay the man's board, and if his convalescence is not as rapid as I hope for, charge the whole thing to me. Good morning, all." He gets on his beast and says: "Go along, you beast, but go slowly, for those bandits sweeping through the land may have left somebody else wounded and half dead." Sympathy! Christian sympathy! How many such men as that would it take to warm the cold world up? Famine in Zarepthath. Everything dried up. There is a widow with a son and no food except a handful of meal. She is gathering sticks to kindle a fire to cook the handful of meal. Then she is going to wrap her arms around her boy and die. Now comes Elijah. His two black servants, the ravens, have got tired waiting on him. He asks the woman for food. Now, that handful of meal has to be divided into three parts. Before, it was to be divided into two parts. Now, she says to Elijah, "Come in and sit down at this solemn table and take a third of the last morsel." How many women like that would it take to warm the cold world up?

It was his strong sympathy that brought Christ from a warm heaven to a cold world. Heaven, and where he dwelt had a serene sky, balsamic atmosphere, tropical luxuriance. No storm-blasts in Heaven. No chill fountains. On an 8th of December night Christ stepped out of a warm Heaven into the cold world's frigidity. The thermometer in Palestine never drops below zero, but December is a cheerless month, and the pasturage is very poor on the hillstops. Christ stepped out of a warm Heaven into the cold world that cold December night. The world's reception was cold. The surf of bestormed Galilee was cold. Joseph's sepulcher was cold. Christ came, the great warmer, to warm the earth, and all Christendom to-day feels the glow. He will keep on warming until the Arctic until the Tropic will drive away the Arctic and the Antarctic. He gave an intimation of what he was going to do when he broke up the funeral at the gate of Nain and turned it into a reunion festival, and when with his warm lips he melted the Galilean hurricane and stood on the deck and stamped his feet, crying, "Silence!" and the waves crouched and the tempest folded their wings.

Ah! I am so glad that the sun of righteousness dawned on the polar night of the nations. And if Christ is the great warmer, then the church is the great hot-house, with its plants and trees and fruits of righteousness. Do you know, my friends, that the church is the institution that proposes warmth? I have been 27 years studying how to make the church warmer. Warmer architecture, warmer hymnology, warmer Christian salutation. All outside Siberian winter, we must have in a prince's hothouse. The only institution on earth to-day that proposes to make the world warmer. Universities and observatories, they all have their work. They propose to make the world light, but they do not propose to make the world warm. Geology informs us, but it is as cold as the rock it hammers. The telescope shows where the other worlds are, but an astronomer is chilled while looking through it. Christianity tells of the strange combinations and how inferior affinity may be overcome by superior affinity, but it cannot tell how all thing work together for good. Worldly philosophy has a great splendor, but it is the splendor of moonlight on an iceberg. The church of God proposes warmth and hope—warmth for the expectoring, warmth for the sympathies. Oh! I am so glad that these great altar fires have been kindled. Come in out of the cold. Come in and have your wounds salved. Come and have your sins pardoned. Come in by the great gospel fireplace.

Notwithstanding all the modern inventions for heating, I tell you there is nothing so full of geniality and sociality as the old-fashioned country fireplace. The neighbors were to come in for a winter evening of sociality. In the middle of the afternoon, in the best room in the house, some one brought in a great backlog with great strains and put it down on the back of the hearth. Then the lighter wood was put on, armful after armful. Then a shovel of coal was taken from another room and put under the dry pile, and the kindling began, and the crackling, and it rose until it became a roaring flame, which filled all the room with geniality and was reflected from the family pictures on the wall.

Then the neighbors came in two by two. They sat down, their faces to the fire, which ever and anon was stirred with tongs and readjusted on the andirons, and there were such times of rustic repartee, and story telling, and mirth as the black stove and the blind register never dreamed of. Meanwhile the table was being spread, and such fair was the cloth and so clean was the cutlery, they glisten and glisten in our mind to-day. And then the best luxury of orchard and farmyard was roasted and prepared for the table, to meet the appetites sharpened by the cold ride. Oh, my friends, the church of Jesus Christ is the world's fireplace, and the woods are from the cedars of Lebanon, and the fires are fires of love, and with the silver tongs of the reflected from all the family pictures on the wall—pictures of those who were here and are gone now. Oh! come up close to the fireplace. Have your worn faces transfigured in this light. Put your cold feet, weary of the journey, close up to the blessed conflagration. Chilled through with trouble and disappointment, come close up until you can get warm clear through. Exchange experience, talk over the harvests gathered, tell all the gospel news. Meanwhile the table is being spread. On it, bread of life. On it, grapes of Eschol. On it, new wine from the kingdom. On it, a thousand luxuries celestial. Hark! as a wounded hand raps on the table, and a tender voice comes through saying: "Come, for all things are now ready. Eat, oh, friends! drink, yea, drink abundantly, oh, beloved!"

My friends, that is the way the cold world is going to be warmed up, by the great gospel fireplaces. All nations will come in and sit down at that banquet. While I was musing, the fire burned. "Come in out of the cold, come in out of the cold!"

Do Not Do This.

Do not be induced to buy any other if you have made up your mind to take Hood's Sarsaparilla. Remember that Hood's Sarsaparilla cures when all others fail. Do not give up in despair because other medicines have failed to help you. Take Hood's Sarsaparilla faithfully and you may reasonably expect to be cured.

Hood's Pills are purely vegetable, carefully prepared from the best ingredients. 25c.

ANGLOMANIACS.

Ragged Haggard (at the door)—I'm willin' to work, maddim, but I can't get nuthin' to do at my perfession.

Mrs. Snapperton—H'm! What is your profession?

Ragged Haggard—I am an anglomaniac.—Harper's Bazar.

Jones—You look particularly jolly and contented, with such a mug on you.

Smythe—Why shouldn't I? You see, old chappie, an Irishman licked me because he thought I was an Englishman.—Puck.

Mrs. Newrich—Yes, it's really distressful about my son Arthur. Ever since we came home from London he has been copying Enrlish manners and dress until I declare he has become quite a kleptomaniac.—Judge.

English Customer—Me god fellah, let me look at some of your English running shoes.

Clerk—You mean English walking shoes, do you not?

Customer—No, me good fellah. I want em for me brother in Venezuela.—Judge.

"I was never more surprised in my life," said the English nobleman, "than I was at my reception in America. Nobody paid the slightest attention to me."

"Well," replied his compatriot, "that's what you get for not traveling incognito."—Judge.

A Philosopher.

Flossie is six years old. "Mamma," she asked on Christmas day, when the guests had assembled, "if I get married, will I have to have a husband like pa?"

"Yes," replied mother, with an amused smile.

"And if I don't get married, will I have to be an old maid like Aunt Kate?"

"Yes."

"Mamma" (after a pause), "it's a tough world for us women, ain't it?"

life depends

wholly on the body's power to repair its loss, that is on nutrition. In old age this power grows less and less. Hence its weakness and sadness. Trifles are burdens. Ordinary food no longer nourishes. Multitudes of elderly persons find new zest and vigor through the use of SCOTT'S EMULSION of Cod-liver Oil. It slips into the blood and helps to digest other food. It contains lime and soda to build up the bones and correct acidity.

50c. and $1.00 at all druggists.

NAPOLEON V?

The Illegitimate Son of the Prince Imperial May Rule France.

Bonapartist leaders who have been opposed to Prince Victor since the death of the prince imperial are moving heaven and earth to organize a new party. Their chief is already found in the person of Willie Watkins, a natural son of the late prince. The boy will be 16 years old next July, and this is the age recognized by the Napoleonic constitution for the coming of age of the heirs to the imperial throne of France.

The mother of the child has mysteriously disappeared, and her son, who was until recently at the Blackheath seminary, England, is also missing; but it is generally believed that the partisans of the new pretender can produce them when the time arrives.

Ex-Empress Eugenie was made aware of her son's liaison after the tragedy in Zululand in 1879; she refused at first to acknowledge the evidence, but a package of letters from the young woman in the case, which fell in her possession, soon convinced her that a denial was impossible. To avoid a scandal, she gave to the mother of her grandson a certain amount of money, so as to enable her to leave Europe, the said amount to be paid on the installment plan. A trusted friend took charge of the child.

Many conflicting and sensational stories have been circulated on the subject, but the absolute truth became known only a few weeks ago. The identity of the guardian is yet concealed; he has, however, all the necessary documents in his possession, and he is said to have communicated them to some prominent Bonapartists, among them the Comte d'Herisson, Paul de Cassagnac and Duque de la Feuconnere.

The following information, which has been verified in its minutest detail, says an exchange, can be considered as altogether reliable. The child is really the son of the prince imperial; there is not a particle of doubt about this. His legal father, however, was Walter Kelly. His mother, during her relations with the prince, was a married woman, who used to live in Jermyn street in London. Her husband, who was affected with tuberculosis of the lungs, was very poor, and on account of the deplorable state of his health, was compelled to do writing, or rather, copying, at home, for a scanty livelihood. He died at the Brompton street Hospital for Consumptives; the dates of his admission and of his death show conclusively that he could not have been the real father of little Willie, although the child is recorded as his posthumous offspring.

His wife was a pretty brunette, a good girl, and full of fun—the daughter of a tailor residing near Regent street. Financial embarrassment forced her to look for employment. The skating rinks were the rage in London at that time. She secured an engagement as a professional at one of these places in the West End, near the Empire theatre. It was there that she met the prince imperial for the first time. She was always seen in the company of the prince, who, during this intimacy, which did not exceed three or four months, ignored always the fact that she was married.

Charlotte Kelley was known at the rink under the name of Charlotte, or rather, Lottie Watkins. She said, and her statement is not doubted, that her adventure with the prince began at the rink, and she never knew the name of her lover until his picture appeared in the London papers when he was killed in the Zululand, June 16, 1879. She disappeared mysteriously from England about eight months after the tragic death of the prince was made public, and she left her child in the care of a lady selected by ex-Empress Eugenie and known as Miss Martin.

The persons who took interest in the matter attempted vainly to discover her whereabouts. They wrote to the archbishop of Sydney and to the bishop of Melbourne, as they supposed that she had gone to Australia. They received no satisfactory reply, although Dame Rumor had it that she was an actress in Melbourne. The supposition now is that Charlotte Kelley never left the continent; she has even been allowed to see the child in France and in England. She merely consented to comply with the wishes of ex-Empress Eugenie to live in obscurity on the express condition that she would enjoy occasionally the company of the boy, whom she loves dearly. It seems, indeed, that instead of suppressing her, it has been the policy of those directly interested in the affair to take every possible precaution to provide for her absolute safety.

Another curious feature of the case is that ex-Empress Eugenie is the very one who insisted upon giving the name of Watkins to her natural grandson. Her purpose was self-evident under the circumstances; she intended undoubtedly to recognize the rights of the child to a certain extent, and for this reason had the name of Kelley discarded.

Willie Watkins was born in 1880, about seven months after the departure of the prince for Zululand; his mother kept him about one month, and then intrusted him to the care of Miss Martin in London. When five years old, that is in 1885, his guardian brought him to the college at St. Nicolas Issy, near Paris, where he remained until the last part of the year, 1886. According to his teachers he was very lazy, but exceedingly intelligent and marvelously gifted. He was very fond of Paris, and could speak French and English equally well. He was and is yet the very image of his father, possessing even the large ears of the prince imperial at which Henry Rochefort poked so much fun in his satiric publication, the Lanterne.—Chicago Inter-Ocean.

WILLIE WATKINS,

Who may be Napoleon V. He is sixteen years old, a schoolboy in England, and is the son of the Prince Imperial, who was killed in the Zulu war.

REMEDIAL FOODS.

Standard Articles of Diet Which Are Said to Have Medicinal Value.

Celery is invaluable as a food for those suffering from any form of rheumatism, for diseases of the nerves, and nervous dyspepsia, says The Housekeeper.

Lettuce for those suffering from insomnia.

Watercress is a remedy for scurvy.

Peanuts for indigestion. They are especially recommended for corpulent diabetes. Peanuts are made into a wholesome and nutritious soup, are browned and used as coffee, are eaten as a relish simply baked, or are prepared and served as salted almonds.

Onions are almost the best nervine known. No medicine is so useful in cases of nervous prostration, and there is nothing else that will so quickly relieve and tone up a worn-out system. Onions are useful in all cases of coughs, colds, and influenza; in consumption, insomnia, hydrophobia, scurvy, gravel, and kindred liver complaints. Eaten every other day they will soon have a clearing and whitening effect on the complexion.

Spinach is useful to those with gravel.

Asparagus is used to induce perspiration.

Carrots for sufferers from asthma.

Turnips for nervous disorders and for scurvy.

Raw beef proves of great benefit to persons of frail constitution, and to those suffering from consumption. It is chopped fine, seasoned with salt, and taken by placing it in a dish of hot water. It assimilates rapidly and affords the best nourishment.

Eggs contain a large amount of nutriment in a compact, quickly available form. Beaten up raw with sugar they are used to clear and strengthen the voice. With sugar and lemon juice the beaten white of eggs is to relieve hoarseness.

Honey is wholesome, strengthening, cleansing, healing, and nourishing.

Fresh ripe fruits are excellent for purifying the blood and toning up the system. As specific remedies, oranges are aperient. Sour oranges are highly recommended for rheumatism.

Cranberries for dyspepsia are used externally as well as internally.

Lemons for [illegible] in sickness, for biliousness, low fevers, rheumatism, coughs, colds, liver complaint, etc.

Blackberries as a tonic. Useful in all forms of diarrhoea.

Tomatoes are a powerful aperient for the liver, a solvent remedy for dyspepsia and indigestion. Tomatoes are invaluable in all conditions of the system in which the use of calomel is indicated.

Figs are aperient and wholesome. They are said to be valuable as food for those suffering from cancer; they are used externally as well as internally.

Apples are useful in nervous dyspepsia; they are nutritious, medicinal, and vitalizing; they aid digestion, clear the voice, correct the acidity of the stomach, and are valuable in rheumatism, insomnia, and liver troubles. An apple contains as much nutriment as a potatoe or a pleasanter and more wholesome form.

Grapes dissolve and dislodge gravel and calculi, and bring the stomach and bowels to a healthy condition.

Pie plant is wholesome and aperient; is excellent for rheumatic sufferers and useful for purifying the blood.

Coughs, Hoarseness, Sore Throat, etc., quickly relieved by BROWN'S BRONCHIAL TROCHES. They surpass all other preparations in removing hoarseness, and as A COUGH REMEDY, are pre-eminently THE BEST.

HIT OR MISS.

Gayboy—Give me a kiss.

Miss Peachison Cream—How dare you? I'll call mamma.

Gayboy—Thank you; I've kissed her already.—Chester (Pa.) Democrat.

Mrs. Peck—What do you sit there reading for when I am trying to think of a word? Should I say "disillusioned" or "disillusionized?"

Mr. N. Peck—I dunno. Just say "married" and let it go at that.—Indianapolis Journal.

Reporter—Why have you put all of those tree boxes around your cherry trees?

Farmer—Why, Johnny's teacher gave him the life of George Washington last Sunday.—New York Herald.

Mrs. Jones—No, I couldn't give you anything. It is too plain that you are a drinking man.

The Tramp—True, madam; I don't deny it, but I'm trying to save up enough to take the gold cure.—Life.

He shuddered.

"Do you propose to make a scene?" he gasped.

"That's my business," returned the living picture.—Detroit Tribune.

They Must Have Been Professionals.

"I met three of the wittiest men in town last night," said Blykins.

"The conversation must have been brilliant."

"It was depressing as a graveyard. Each was scared to death for fear of the others might catch an idea from him."—Washington Star.

A Convict Genius.

Warden—Yes; that twelve-year man is a wonder. He's an inventor.

Visitor—What's he invented?

Warden (proudly)—A flying machine. He's got it nearly perfected, too!—Puck.

Couldn't Wear the Ribbon.

Miss Daisy—Are you going to enter Rover in the dog show?

Miss Millie—I should say not. Why, blue isn't a bit becoming to the poor fellow.

Will Never Get It.

"By Jove, I left my purse under my pillow!" "Oh, well, your servant is honest, isn't she?" "That's just it—she'll take it right up to my wife!"

Their One Defect.

Mr. Mosenstein—Vell, vot do you dink of dose elegandt, all-vool, gustom-made suits?

Farmer Grassneck—It's a darn pity you don't sew on the buttons as tight as you do the tags.—Puck.

Chosen by the Government

The War Department proposes to test the bicycle thoroughly for army use, and recently advertised for proposals for furnishing five bicycles for the purpose. Result: Bids from $50 to $85 each for other machines; our bid of $100 each for Columbias, their invariable price. And the Government selected

Columbia Bicycles

STANDARD OF THE WORLD

The experts who made the choice decided that Columbias were worth every dollar of the $100 asked for them.

If you are willing to pay $100 for a bicycle, why be content with anything but a Columbia?

POPE MANUFACTURING CO., Hartford, Conn.

DEAR MRS. PINKHAM:

"I cannot begin to tell you what your remedies have done for me. I suffered for years with falling and neuralgia of the womb, kidney trouble and leucorrhœa in its worst form. There were times that I could not stand, was sick all over and in despair. I had not known a real well day for 15 years. I knew I must do something at once. I had tried physicians without receiving any lasting benefit. I began the use of Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound. Now, I have used 9 bottles; my weight has increased 25 lbs. I tell every one to whom and what I owe my recovery, and there are 15 of my friends taking the Compound after seeing what it has done for me. Oh, if I had known of it sooner, and saved all these years of misery. I can recommend it to every woman."—KATE YODER, 408 W. 9th St., Cincinnati, O.

Should advice be required, write to Mrs. Pinkham, at Lynn, Mass., who has the utter confidence of all intelligent American women. She will promptly tell what to do, free of charge. Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound, which is easily obtained at any druggist's, will restore any ailing woman to her normal condition quickly and permanently.

AN UP-TO-DATE GIRL.

She paints dainty pictures on plates
And embroiders for hours and hours
Writes verses imploring the fates,
To sprinkle ambition with showers.

She always is up with the lark,
And is seen with her cheeks rosy red,
Walking rapidly down through the park
With her nose pointing straightway ahead.

She lectures on mummies and things,
Oh, her knowledge is simply intense;
She's a corker on polarized rings,
As a linguist she's counted immense.

Adroitly she pulls at the oar,
Can she act on the stage? Well, she can.
She has gained all her wants, and some more,
But she never has collared a man.
—Boston Traveler.

DISCOVERIES AT POMPEII.

A Perfectly Preserved Roman Mansion Recently Dug Out.

Hampered continually by the strained condition of its budget, the Italian government is carrying on excavations at Pompeii, and this locality remains an inexhaustible field of discovery. Under the direction of Sig. Cozza, engineer in charge of the excavations, a whole Roman mansion has been discovered lately, the decorations and furnitures of which are in a perfect state of preservation. This house was a very important one. It occupied a whole isola, or city block, in the northwest part of the town. The inside yard, as it was customary, is in a rectangular shape, very large, and surrounded on its four sides by a portico supported by eighteen Corinthian columns. Between these columns were found nine white marble vasques, four tables resting on a base decorated with satura's legs, and nine statuettes of Bacchus, fauns and cupids. The walls painted black and red, are decorated at the top with a nearly intact cornice, richly ornamented. The different rooms, which open on the atrium, are embellished with frescoes of the highest interest. On the walls of the main hall is a frieze outstretching with the most exquisite taste and spirited execution. It represents scenes of every-day life, with winged cupids as performers. Many subjects of similar style have already been found in Pompeii, but none so well preserved and of such a delicate refinement.

One of these scenes represents a "wreath shop;" on one side the making on the other side the sale of the wreaths is figured. Further is a "fuller's workroom." Two women are treading, on the cloth, which is lying in a large bucket; a little farther are seen two cupids stretching the wet cloth on a dryingle-un. Another cupid shows to the forewoman the work to do. At the right of this composition, and ending it, are two women folding the dry cloth which has been brought to them.

A "goldsmith's shop" is not less interesting. A cupid is at the desk, weighing on a scale a jewel which a rich lady customer, seated facing him, has just selected; while other cupids are hammering on a delicate anvil silver and gold objects. Next is a "perfumery" shop. This frieze gives a wonderful idea of the circus performances. Standing on their narrow chariot, drawn by anteloves, are four drivers, dressed with colored dresses, like our modern jockeys, they are pressing their speedy teams and striving with desperation. Besides the graceful figures inscribed above, these separate fresco panels constitute the main decoration. Their dimensions are about a square meter, that is to say, a square foot and a half to a square foot. They represent various episodes of the Theban legendary history.

The first one shows the infant Hercules smothering the snakes which Juno, in her jealous anger has sent against him. This episode appears on a beautiful coin of Crotona, and is well known to those familiar with the medal. The history of the American revolutionary period. Taking his inspiration from the antique, Benjamin Franklin caused a medal to be struck at the Paris Mint on which Young America is personified by the child hero in his cradle strangling the two serpents. These snakes represent Burgoyne's and Cornwallis' armies. On the reverse of the said medal are the dates of their annihilation, coupled with the glorious names of Saratoga and Yorktown. In the Pompeiian fresco Jupiter is seated on a throne and contemplating with a radiant smile the infant hero's exploit, while Alkmena, his mother, hidden behind the god, follows with semi-anguished, semi-admiring eyes the progress of the struggle. The idea of the infant Hercules strangling two serpents is symbolical of the victory of Light over Darkness, of Good over Evil, and of free and united Hellas over barbarism and tyranny. This painting is particularly interesting, as it may be a copy of the famous composition by Zeuxis, mentioned by Pliny.

In the second picture Amphion and Zethus are represented taking revenge on Dirce, who, after earning their mother, Antiope, ill-reputed for their father, Lycos, married him in her stead. They are in the act of tying her to the tail of a wild bull.

The slaying of Penthes is painted on the last panel. Incensed by Dionysos, whose worship this King had proscribed in his dominions, the mother and sisters of Penthes have joined the Bacchantes. They have caught the unfortunate while he is watching them, and, intoxicated with mad frenzy, they kill him with their shrieks.

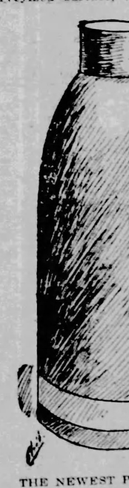
Generally all the pictures of importance exhumed at Pompeii are transferred to Naples, but an exception has been made in favor of the newly discovered frescoes. They can be admired at the site of their finding.

IT'S A TERROR.

A Projectile That Cuts Steel Plate Like Cheese.

The Johnson projectile, which went through seven inches of Harveyized plate armor recently, when the ordinary projectiles would scarcely dent it, is a peculiarly shaped thing. It is forged from steel under a heavy hydraulic pressure. Over its sharp point is placed a cap of soft but tough steel that looks like the cover of a milk can. This resemblance has given the projectile the name of the "milk can."

The object of this cap is to protect the point on the first impact against the hard Harveyized surface, as it is there that



THE NEWEST PROJECTILE,

Which Cut a Hole Through Seven-Inch Harveyized Plate.

most projectiles are turned aside and broken up. The cap spreads out like tin foil as the sharp pointed mass forces its way through the remainder of the plate.

A LEAP YEAR GIRL.

She Touched Augustus, and Probably He Tumbled.

At 9 o'clock last Saturday evening Algernon stood at the front door of the house of the girl he loved, but to whom he dared not say a word.

For a long time he had been sparring for points, but to the bashful these things do not appear in a clear light, even though they clearly exist.

He had rung the bell once, twice, thrice, but there had been no answer.

Nervously he stretched forth his hand to ring again, when the door was opened by the one being in all the world who made his life worth living.

"Why, Algernon," she exclaimed, "if I had thought it was you, I wouldn't have kept you standing out in the cold so long."

He thought of how long he had been standing out in the cold and wondered when the courage would come to him to go in out of it.

"You know," she continued, as she drew him inside and closed the door, "that the servants are out to-night, and some of the family have to answer the front door-bell."

He thought he saw a chance to make a start in the right direction, without alarming her. That had been the trouble all the time with Algernon; he was in mortal terror of frightening the girl by some emotional precipitancy or other, and thus destroy his hopes forever.

"Why, Miss Dora," he said in tender, insinuating tones, "don't you know my ring yet?"

She looked down at her empty fingers where no jewelled setting shone, and then looked up into Algernon's face.

"No, Algernon," she said, blushing, "I do not. But don't you think it is almost time that I did?"

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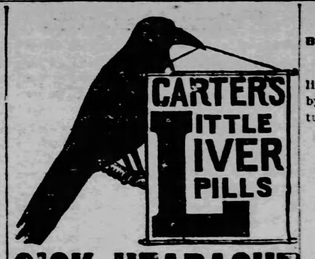
You may be pleased to know the popular dentifrice "SOZODONT" can now be obtained by mail, free, for trial. Small sample, if you mention this paper. Address Hall & Ruckel, New York City.

An Exchange.

I give my love a little dog,
My hourly passion to recall;
Alas! whatever love she had,
The dog has got it all!
—New York Tribune.



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The Sunday School.

First Quarterly Review.

Golden text for the Quarter: Him hath God exalted with his right hand to be a Prince and a Saviour.—Acts 5:31.

I. THE FORERUNNER OF CHRIST.

Thou shalt go before the face of the Lord to prepare his ways.—Luke 1:76.

II. THE BOY JESUS.

Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and man.—Luke 2:52.

III. THE MINISTRY OF JOHN THE BAPTIST.

Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sins of the world.—John 1:29.

IV. THE EARLY MINISTRY OF JESUS.

His word was with power.—Luke 4:32.

V. THE POWER OF JESUS.

The Son of man hath power upon earth to forgive sins.—Luke 5:24.

VI. THE SERMON ON THE MOUNT.

Why call ye me, Lord, Lord, and do not the things which I say?—Luke 6:46.

VII. THE GREAT HELPER.

They glorified God, saying, That a great prophet is risen up among us.—Luke 7:16.

VIII. FAITH ENCOURAGED.

Thy faith hath made thee whole; go in peace.—Luke 8:48.

IX. JESUS THE MESSIAH.

This is my beloved Son; hear him.—Luke 9:35.

X. TRUE LOVE TO ONE'S NEIGHBOR.

Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy strength, and with all thy mind, and thy neighbor as thyself.—Luke 10:27.

XI. TEACHING ABOUT PRAYER.

Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you.—Luke 11:9.

XII. FAITHFUL AND UNFAITHFUL SERVANTS.

Be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but be filled with the Spirit.—Eph. 5:18.

Review Hints for the Intermediate Teacher.

The regular scholars in the intermediate department, especially those who were previously taught in the primary class, using the international lesson, are certainly quite familiar with the leading events in the life of Christ. While they may not have been taught chronologically, yet they can tell the (generally accepted) date of his birth, all that we know of him as a child, his age when he began, and the time of his death and resurrection. Teachers as well as scholars are sometimes transient, and may not understand their class, but a few questions will soon prove how much or little they know of the earthly life of Jesus. It would be well to ask such as can do so to bring next week a brief outline of the life of Christ, from his birth and boyhood to his teaching in Perea. Those sketches should be kept to be completed for the next review, at the close of our present course of New Testament study. "Too difficult," does some one say? It would require less care and study than the written exercises which children, even in the lower grades in secular schools, are required to prepare each day of the week. For a class review, a few leading sentences, as the lesson progresses, may be put on the blackboard.

The Forerunner.—Who came to prepare the way of the Lord? Where did he preach? Who came to him to be baptized? When John saw and pointed to Jesus, what did he call him? When Jesus was baptized, what was seen and heard? Who was angry with John the Baptist? Why? How long did he keep John in prison? How was John put to death?

The Boy Jesus.—Where was Jesus born? How many years since then? Where did he grow up? How old was he when he first went to the temple in Jerusalem? Let some scholar promptly tell the story, give his first recorded words. A question: Was he obedient to his earthly parents? With whom and at what trade, did he work?

In Judea.—Though the scholars may be familiar with the map as often used, it will give a more distinct idea to outline on the blackboard Palestine, with the divisions of Judea, Samaria, Galilee, Perea. Perhaps some scholar might do this, which others might copy for their pocket notes. The first year of Jesus' public life was spent in Judea, though none of our lessons for this quarter have been about his work there. He was at the passover in Jerusalem that year, and it was then the ruler came to him by night, and Jesus talked to him of Moses lifting the serpent in the wilderness, and said that "even so must the Son of man be lifted up." What did he say God gave because he "so loved the world?"

In Galilee.—The second year and part of the third year of Jesus' work was in Galilee. He went to his old home in Nazareth, and into the synagogue. Was he welcomed? How treated? What place was often called "his own city?" In Capernaum many people came to see and hear Jesus, and many became his followers.

Miracles.—If Bible-lesson pictures have been used, they will be of value in review. Intermediate scholars need helps for the eye—blackboard, object lessons, illustration, allusions to their own experience as much as those in primary classes, only a little more advanced in method. Recall the miracle before the man with palsy was let down before Jesus. How? Who looked on in anger, and Jesus read their thoughts? How did Jesus prove that he could forgive sin and heal disease? Who sent to Jesus beseeching him to heal his sick servant? What did the elders say about the centurion? What did the centurion say of himself? Near what lovely town, twenty-five miles away, did Jesus and his company meet a funeral procession? Who was weeping? Who was to be buried? Why did those around glorify God, and say, "A great prophet is risen up among us?" Again, near Capernaum, in a crowd, who touched the hem of Jesus' garment? Why? Who stood waiting for Jesus to go with him to his house? What was the ruler's trouble? What did Jesus do for the dead only son?

Jesus Preaching.—How many sermons of Jesus have we? What is that one called? How many disciples had Jesus just chosen? What are some of the things Jesus talked of in that sermon? To whom did he liken those who hear and do not obey?

Jesus' Teaching.—Jesus

TOLEDO BLADE.

THURSDAY, MARCH 19, 1896.

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ROBINSON LOCKE.....Editor.

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MCKINLEY'S PORTRAIT.

We have had so many inquiries for portraits of Hon. Wm. McKinley, that we have made arrangements for a limited number of a very fine picture which Gov. McKinley himself says is "the finest portrait of myself which has ever been made."

It is printed on excellent plate paper, 22 by 28 inches; the face is life size; printed in black on a tinted background; fac-simile of McKinley's signature below; a work of art which is an ornament to any gentleman's library or parlor.

We will mail a copy of this magnificent portrait, in an extra large and heavy pasteboard tube, to any address, on receipt of only 50 cents.

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BUSINESS AND FINANCE.

The trade of the country is simply waiting. The conditions are improving, but business does not increase as promptly as might be expected. The Venezuelan matter is now beyond any probability of war, and the Cuban question not liable to produce any complications that diplomacy can not overcome. Business has been dull in the great lines of trade, and there was a decline in wheat and provisions. The foreign demand for wheat is disappointingly small, and there is no damage to the winter wheat crop to drive the market to higher figures. Last week's government crop report estimated 123,000,000 bushels of wheat yet in farmers' hands, which is 48,000,000 bushels more than was held a year ago; and this, coupled with the favorable condition of wheat in the ground, and the slack foreign demand, amply accounts for the decline in price.

Money is growing easier in the West, and is decidedly so in the Eastern cities. Last week's clearings showed but little change, the average gain over last year being but 5 per cent. The New York bank statement of Saturday showed a reduction of a little over a million and a half in the holdings of the banks of that city, and the movements of currency toward New York, and from that city to the interior, nearly balance each other. March was a month of natural westward and southward shipments in 1888, in 1887, and in other preceding years when the nation's currency supply was suited to the needs of trade. The huge inflation under the Sherman act of 1890 upset all normal precedents, and the movement of currency between the active trade centers was utterly preverted. It is entirely probable that but for the present continuous and natural call for currency at interior markets, New York would already be exporting gold in quantity, as it has ever since 1890. The easing off in sterling exchange rates, which was the really important incident of the week at New York, is directly attributable to this altered money situation. The exports of gold last week were $12,500 to the West Indies; and the imports $42,985, chiefly gold bullion for the West Indies.

The New York money market was easy last week, call loans closing at 3@3½ per cent. Time money was offered with considerable freedom, the lenders readily accepting collateral commonly known as "good mixed." The only point on which they evinced a preference was as to maturity, the longer dates being in greater favor with them. The demand, to meet these conditions, was moderate. Rates 3½ per cent. for thirty to sixty days, 4 for ninety days, 4½ for four to six months.

On the stock market, the week opened absolutely dull for all but the industrial stocks, in which Wednesday's wild movement in American Tobacco created general disturbance. Subsequently there were numerous advances, connected with the increase in the St. Paul company's dividend, and with the Westinghouse-General Electric adjustment. At the close, the market became dull and heavy again.

The railway bond market has been extremely dull and prices slightly lower. Government bonds were also dull and fractionally lower.

SOME GOLD FACTS.

While we in the United States have been diluting our currency with too much credit money, thus forcing gold into retirement to a degree, the countries of Europe have been adding to their stocks of that metal. Since 1890 the gold in European banks has increased by $623,200,000. Of this the Imperial Bank of Russia has gained $185,800,000, the Bank of France $167,400,000, the Bank of England $111,000,000, the Austro-Hungarian Bank $79,800,000, and the Imperial Bank of Germany $39,000,000. The gold comes from the American monetary circulation and from the production of the gold mines. At the end of 1895 the Bank of France and the Imperial Bank of Russia between them held $776,600,000 in gold, a little more than half the stock of gold in all the European banks, and this does not include the gold in the Russian treasury, which is estimated at $510,400,000. The gold in Germany, Austria-Hungary and Italy amounts to $336,000,000, and that in the Bank of England to $580,800,000.

There is a deal of silliness printed these days concerning the X rays. It leads to the inevitable conclusion that there are too many newspaper men who need an rudimentary education in science.

The New York World predicts McKinley's nomination at St. Louis. Wel, it does not require a shrewd forecast to arrive at such a conclusion.

Senator Elkins insists that he is a candidate for President, but then Mr. Elkins is something of a humorist.

TAXATION OF LIQUORS.

There are a great many people who object to any taxation on liquors on moral grounds. They hold the somewhat far-fetched idea that it makes the government a "partner" in the liquor selling, and therefore it should not be done. But the men who feel the burden of ordinary taxation upon their shoulders can see no reason why liquor shall not be taxed. The men who drink are the men who pay it. If they object to their share of the tax they can at once relieve themselves thereof by stopping the use of liquor. As a business proposition this is unassailable; and consequently we find few governments which do not receive a large share of their revenue from liquor taxation.

The highest statistical authority puts the present annual revenue of all governments from liquor taxes of all sorts at $1,000,000,000. These are imposed in various ways—tax on production, tax on exportation, a tax on sale or excise tax, a tax on importation, and a tax on storage or bonded tax. By these various methods Great Britain raises in a year $150,000,000 from taxes on liquor, Russia nearly as much, the United States a little more, France $100,000,000 a year, Germany $75,000,000, and Holland, a small country, but one having extensive liquor interests, $15,000,000.

The total revenue in the United States from liquor is usually given at $200,000,000 a year, but this sum is probably below rather than above the correct figures. The United States government received in 1895, through the internal revenue bureau, from taxes on spirits and from distillers and retail liquor dealers $79,862,627, exclusive of $30,000,000 collected from the manufacture of ales, beer and porter, and brewers and retail dealers.

These two items make collectively $110,000,000, but constitute only a fraction of the government's revenue from liquor and spirits, for there were in addition the customs duties imposed upon foreign spirits imported into the United States, amounting to between $4,000,000 and $5,000,000. Then there were the excise taxes imposed in the several localities, and these local taxes exceed in a year $30,000,000, though there is no definite and positive way of giving the figures in detail, as the rate as well as the number of such licenses varies from time to time. One fact may be stated without apprehension of error, and that is that the public revenue from this source increases each year—it never goes backward.

The three items—internal revenue tax, customs tax on imported liquors, and local excise tax—do not exhaust the sources of public revenue from the liquor traffic, for, in addition, there is imposed in every locality a real estate tax on the property of brewers and distillers, and this additional item added to the others makes undoubtedly the total in excess of $200,000,000.

This is an enormous sum, and gives one a luminous idea of the magnitude of the liquor traffic, and of the mighty moral revolution which must be wrought before the drink evil can be eradicated. For it is but a dream to imagine that the enactment of laws can ever accomplish anything in the way of its overthrow. Men's passions and appetites are not amenable to law. The reform is one which must come from within, not from without. Humanity must be brought to see that the use of liquor in any form is an abuse of both body and mind, that the drink habit curses not only him who is its slave and the community in which he lives, but it is transmitted to future generations, betraying its stain in mental, moral or physical unsoundness. There must be a new crusade of education among the masses of the people, if we are to succeed in the effort to

Pulverize the Rum Power.

THE CUBAN QUESTION.

Senator Lindsay, of Kentucky, made a new and strong point regarding our attitude toward Cuba, in his speech on the Cuban resolutions. He called the attention of the Senate to the declarations of John Quincy Adams and Daniel Webster, speaking officially for our government over fifty years ago, to the effect that the United States had then such an interest in Cuba that it could not allow it to pass into the possession of any other European power, and would even go to war to protect it from that kind of aggression.

He pointed out that this has been the attitude of the United States toward Cuba ever since, and then deduced that it is the plain duty of this country to intervene to procure for the island itself a just and a reasonable government. If it was important enough, in its nearness to the United States, to make it necessary for us to guarantee that it should not go into any other power's hands, there was an obligation on us to see that it was rightly governed by the power that does hold it. If we insisted upon keeping it within the possession of Spain, as we had done, then we had a responsibility for the way Spain governed it, which should impel us to use our influence to procure its government under the recognized methods of enlightened nations in this era.

Senator Lindsay is quite right in his deductions. And Spain has so abused her power by misgoverning, oppressing and overtaxing the Cubans that they have risen in revolution, they properly should have the encouragement and sympathy of the United States.

THE NEXT SENATE.

The terms of the members of the United States Senate are so arranged that, as near as may be, one-third of them expire every second year, with the close of each Congress. On March 4, 1897, at the end of the Fifty-fourth Congress, the terms of the following Senators will terminate:

Pugh, Dem., free silver	Alabama.
J. K. Jones, Dem., free silver	Arkansas.
Perkins, Rep., free silver	California.
Teller, Rep., free silver	Colorado.
Platt, Rep.	Connecticut.
Call, Dem., free silver	Florida.
Gordon, Dem., free silver	Georgia.
Dubois, Rep., free silver	Idaho.
Palmer, Dem.	Illinois.
Voorhees, Dem., free silver	Indiana.
Allison, Rep.	Iowa.
Peffer, Pop., free silver	Kansas.
Blackburn, Dem., free silver	Kentucky.
Blanchard, Dem., free silver	Louisiana.
Gibson, Dem.	Maryland.
Vest, Dem., free silver	Missouri.
John P. Jones, Rep., free silver	Nevada.
Gallinger, Rep.	New Hampshire.
Hill, Dem.	New York.
Pritchard, Rep.-Pop., free silver	North Carolina.
Hansbrough, Rep., free silver	N. Dakota.
Brice, Dem.	Ohio.
Mitchell, Rep., free silver	Oregon.
Cameron, Rep., free silver	Pennsylvania.
Irby, Dem., free silver	South Carolina.
Kyle, Pop., free silver	South Dakota.
Morrill, Rep.	Vermont.
Squire, Rep.	Washington.
Vilas, Dem.	Wisconsin.

Already the Republicans are assured of control of the next Senate through the election of Foraker, of Ohio, to succeed Brice, and of Wellington, of Maryland, to succeed Gibson. Allison has already been elected to succeed himself, and the Republicans are not in danger of losing any seat now filled by a Republican.

Singularly cheering is the fact that the free silver majority in the Senate will also disappear. There is no possibility of any free silver gains, while there will be a loss of four or five free silver Senators. The days of this, the most dangerous form of the cheap money delusion, are nearly numbered.

Jimmy Campbell has not enough confidence in his powers as a mascot to want to make the race for President. He has not forgotten his experience of last year.

THE FEBRUARY SHOWING.

The promptness with which the few friends of the Wilson law distort every possible incident into an argument in its favor is illustrated by a statement in the New York Herald of March 3, which says that the "February returns of the United States Treasury contain the very gratifying intelligence that the government receipts of revenues during the last month exceeded the national expenditures $127,840.42. The total revenue, $26,059,228.42, and all expenditures, $25,931,388."

That paper then carefully proceeds to argue that the Wilson tariff act is now meeting running expenses, that the revenue is improving, and that if Congress will only practice economy the revenue may exceed the expenditures before next fall.

All of which shows willingness to distort facts into arguments for a law which has been a failure from the moment of its passage. The February receipts, instead of producing a surplus of $127,840.42, produced a deficit for that month of $690,728.03. The official statement of the Treasury Department for the month shows that the receipts were, as stated by the Herald, $28,059,228.42, but that the expenditures were $28,749,956.45. Even had the expenditures been what the Herald estimated, and a surplus of $127,000 been made in February by reason of small expenditures, it would not have been any argument in favor of the success of the Wilson law. On the contrary, the law fell short, during February, a round $100,000 a day, below the average daily expenditures during the present fiscal year.

The average daily receipts during February were $893,594, and the average daily expenditures during the fiscal year up to this time have been $903,239. So if the government receipts continue to run at the enormous rate about which the Herald is so delighted the yearly deficiency will amount to $36,000,000. It has averaged more than up to this time since the Wilson law went into effect. The total deficiency, since that law went into effect August 28, 1894, has been in round numbers $75,000,000, or an average of $130,000 per day. In fact, there had not been a February in the last ten years in which the receipts were as small as in February, 1896, until the Democratic Congress began its destruction of the McKinley law. It may be interesting to see what the February record is during the past decade as to receipts. It is as follows:

1887—Tariff of 1883	$29,773,877
1888—Tariff of 1883	31,151,931
1889—Tariff of 1883	30,135,159
1890—Tariff of 1883	33,893,219
1891—McKinley tariff	29,273,173
1892—McKinley tariff	30,698,944
1893—McKinley tariff	29,698,142
1894—Tariff legislation in progress	22,789,269
1895—Wilson tariff	22,888,057
1896—Wilson tariff	26,059,228

It will be seen by the above figures that the Wilson law has produced less in all of the months of February in which it was in operation than in the February of the decade, except the one in which Congress was engaged in destroying the McKinley law with the promise of lower rates. Quite naturally, at that time, importers were holding back all dutiable importations, and thus reducing the tariff receipts to a point far below the normal. On the other hand, the two months of February in which the Wilson law has been in operation should have proved exceptionally good ones in the matter of receipts, for the woolen schedule of the Wilson law had only been in effect one month when the first February under that act began, and the importations for the present February under that act were stimulated by the prospect that the present Congress was likely to increase the rates of duty, which fact largely increased the importations of dutiable goods and customs collections.

A TRAFFIC DREAM.

Some of the Chicago papers are talking of a division of through traffic from the West to the Gulf ports. The proposition is that the direction of the through freight business of the United States is to be changed; instead of going east or west, it is to go north and south. This talk is in consequence of the near completion of what is known as the "Kansas City line." When it is opened, there will be a railway system paralleling the Mississippi river on the west, extending from St. Paul to Galveston and New Orleans, with side branches to all the railroad centres of the West. In order to secure business this new line of transportation must compete directly with the Eastern trunk systems, and the shorter mileage, coupled with good shipping facilities at the Gulf ports, are destined, in the minds of some people, to turn the direction of traffic in the northwest.

The idea is neither new nor original. It has come up time and again ever since the war. Those now advancing it seem to be ignorant of the fact that two extensive systems of railway already parallel the Mississippi river, and neither of them has made any perceptible headway in stealing the Northwestern trade. True, for the last year or two, grain shipments have been falling off at New York and increasing at Newport News and New Orleans. But this has been due largely to the war of certain railroads on the water systems of traffic, and it was that which aroused the people of New York to demand the improvement of its canals.

To make a great trunk line profitable, it must have business both ways. The great bulk of freight goes east and west, because the belt of densest population lies in that direction. The grain and live stock of the West goes east to find a consumptive market or for shipment to Europe; the engines haul back long lines of cars loaded with manufactured goods and products needed by the people of the West and Northwest. The export trade is best served at the Atlantic ports, for the distance is not much more than half that from the Gulf ports. The north and south lines have no freight to carry from the South to the North. The east and west trend of traffic is because of the conditions, not because the railway trunk lines run so. The new north and south line will develop way traffic, and perhaps a small export trade; but it will not divert imports, nor injure the existing trunk lines between the Atlantic and the West.

And now a cable rumor has it that the conversion of two-year old Prince Boris of Bulgaria, by command, from Catholicism to "the Bulgarian National church" is not satisfactory to the czar, who may insist that the little fellow shall be baptized in the Orthodox Greek church. The czar is said to regard the Bulgarian church as schismatical. These rapid and continuous conversions are liable to be attended with serious results to the health of so young a convert.

Eight of the thirteen Georgia districts have chosen their delegates to the Republican national convention and thirteen of the sixteen delegates named are for McKinley. The McKinley enthusiasm is sweeping through the South, for protection has many ardent supporters in that section.

Cullom's own Congressional district has instructed for McKinley. "The man who looks like Lincoln" should climb into the band-wagon without loss of time.

Some one had better look after the Adlai Stevenson Presidential boom. It may have closed the transom, blown out the gas and gone to bed.

SOME FACTS OF HISTORY.

Now that it is apparent to everybody that Major McKinley is to have more votes than any other candidate on the first ballot in the national convention, the croakers are saying that this fact is not an assurance of his success. Without reading history of national conventions, but recalling only prominent incidents which are more easily remembered because of their prominence, they are asserting that men who led on the first ballot in national conventions are seldom nominated and that the disposition of political managers to combine the "field" against the favorites is likely to result in his defeat. All this sounds well, but does not stand the test of history.

The two great parties have, since national conventions became the fashion, held 26 nominating conventions. The Republicans have had 10, the Democrats 16. In the first Republican convention (1856) Fremont led on the first ballot and was nominated. In the second convention, Seward led on the first ballot; Lincoln was nominated on the third. In the third convention, Lincoln was unanimously nominated on the first ballot. In the fourth convention, Grant was unanimously nominated on the first ballot. In the fifth convention, he was renominated by acclamation. In the sixth convention (1876) Blaine led from the first to the sixth ballot; Hayes was nominated on the seventh. In the seventh convention Grant led on the first 35 ballots; Garfield was nominated on the 36th. In the eighth convention, Blaine led on the first ballot, and kept the lead until his nomination on the fourth ballot. In the ninth convention Sherman led on the first ballot and maintained his lead until the fifth; Harrison was nominated on the eighth ballot. In the tenth convention (Minneapolis, 1892) Harrison was nominated on the first ballot.

It will be seen then that only four of the ten national conventions which the Republican party has held, has the man who had the largest number of votes on the first ballot failed of nomination; and only three of the ten nominees of those conventions failed of election.

The Democrats have held sixteen national conventions, the first being that of 1832 in which Van Buren was nominated on the first ballot, as he was also in the second and third conventions. In the fourth convention he led on the first four ballots, but Polk was nominated on the ninth. In the fifth convention Cass led on the first ballot and was nonrinated on the fourth. In the sixth convention Cass led on 26 ballots; Pierce was nominated on the 49th. In the seventh convention Buchanan led constantly until the 17th ballot when he was nominated. In the eighth convention Douglas led to the 57th ballot when the convention adjourned from Cincinnati to Charleston, adjourning again from Charleston to Baltimore where Douglas was nominated. In the ninth convention Pendleton led from the first to the 16th ballot; Seymour was nominated on the 22d. In the 11th convention Greeley was nominated on the first ballot. In the 12th convention Tilden led on the first ballot and was nominated on the second. In the 13th convention Hancock led on the first ballot and was nominated on the second. In the 15th convention Cleveland was nominated on the first ballot. In the 16th and last of the Democratic national conventions (1892) Cleveland was nominated on the first ballot.

In 13 of the 16 Democratic national conventions, the man who led on the first ballot was the nominee of the convention.

Taking the record of the 26 national conventions held by the two great parties as a test for the prospective success of the man who leads on the first ballot, it is found that the argument is strongly in his favor. In the 26 national conventions which the two parties have held the leader of the first ballot was the nominee of the convention in 19 of the 26 cases. So it does not appear that the friends of Major McKinley need be alarmed over the assumption that the man who leads on the first ballot is likely to fail. On the contrary his chances would appear to be three to one as against any of the others if we take the record of the leaders in national conventions as a test. Here are the figures which might be worth while showing to the people who assume that the certainty which McKinley will lead on the first ballot is an element of weakness:

Republican national conventions	10
Leader on first ballot nominated	6
Democratic national conventions	16
Leader on first ballot nominated	13

Next May comes the crowning of Czar Nicholas of Russia, and the ceremonies will be on the grandest scale of Muscovite magnificence. Though his coronation will follow his accession to the throne by nearly two years, this is no new thing in Russia. On Dec. 1, 1824, Nicholas I. became Emperor of Russia; he was crowned on Sept. 3, 1825; Alexander II. acceded to the throne on March 2, 1855, but was not crowned until Sept. 7, 1856; Alexander III. became Czar on March 13, 1881, and was crowned only on May 27, 1883. Nicholas II. succeeded his father on Nov. 1, 1894.

Nikola Tesla has made public some interesting results of his experiments in radiography. He says he is becoming more and more convinced that in applying the X rays to photography we have to deal with a stream of material particles which strike the sensitized plate with great force. Roentgen's discovery, important as it is in its surgical and other aspects, is of far more value in the world of science. It furnishes a key wherewith to unlock one of the great mysteries—that of the primal constitution of matter.

Rufus Hardy, chairman of the "sound money" organization of Texas, has issued an address to the sound-money Democrats, in which he urges as the nominee for governor A. J. Baker, the only member of the state official family who stands against "repudiation and fiatism." This is one of the many evidences that the intelligent men of the communities wherein the free silver agitation is prominent are tired of the injury which it is doing the country, and preparing to oppose it systematically.

The long-continued riots in various Spanish cities, though ostensibly occasioned by irritability over the alleged impertinence of the American people, has now become a matter of much more consequence to Spain than to us, as it indicates a spirit of defiance of law and order and possibly of ultimate dissatisfaction with the Madrid government's policy which may not unnaturally cause the officials over there some uneasiness. It really endangers the stability of the throne.

H. Clay Evans, of Tennessee, says he is not a candidate for Vice President, but is sure of being nominated for governor. What is more, he will be elected, and the infamous wrong perpetrated on him by stealing the governorship from him will be righted, so far as the people can do so.

Governor Morton's Presidential candidacy grows more unsubstantial and vaporous day by day.

The free coinage of Presidential favorite sons will go on until the St. Louis convention meets.

THE OHIO PLATFORM.

The body of Republican doctrine set forth by the Ohio Republicans in their platform commends itself to every patriotic American citizen. There is no backward step. Proper protection to American labor and American industries; "reciprocity that reciprocates;" a commercial policy that will revive our merchant marine; the Monroe doctrine as Monroe himself proclaimed it; fair play to the pensioners; and a fiscal policy which will prevent debt-making in time of peace, but furnish abundant revenue for the government at all times and under all circumstances. These are the planks of which the Ohio Republicans construct the body of their platform—and they make it wide enough for every Republican in the nation to stand thereon and every honest voter of any other party.

The currency plank is not new in spirit, but it is made plain enough to remove any possibility of the charge that it dodges the issue or "straddles" the silver question. It is a sound money deliverance, as one may see by reading it. Here it is:

We contend for honest money; for a currency of gold, silver and paper with which to measure our exchanges that shall be as sound as the government and as unTarnished as its honor; and to that end we favor bimetallism, and demand the use of both gold and silver as standard money, either in accordance with a ratio to be fixed by an international agreement, if that can be obtained, or under such restrictions and such provisions to be determined by legislation, as will secure the maintenance of the parity of the values of the two metals, so that the purchasing and debt-paying power of the dollar, whether of silver, gold or paper, shall be at all times equal.

This is a courteous but no less emphatic declaration in opposition to the free coinage of silver at 16 to 1, and consequent silver monometallism. The word "bimetallism" is used in its true meaning, and not in the false sense attached to it by the free silver advocates.

It declares in its opening sentence for "honest money"—not for a dishonest depreciation of the dollar to half its present purchasing power.

It declares for a currency of gold, silver and paper—and this is impossible with free coinage of silver; for there is no silver country in which gold forms any part of the currency. The depreciated silver has driven gold out of circulation.

It demands "the use of both gold and silver as standard money," but only on certain conditions, either of which will preserve the dollar at its present gold value. They are:

First—An international agreement;

Second—Such legislative provisions as will maintain gold and silver at a parity.

And the resolution demands, as a sine qua non, that "the purchasing and debt-paying power of the dollar, whether of silver, gold or paper, shall be at all times equal." This cannot possibly be, with the free coinage of silver at 16 to 1. It is an impossibility to have gold and silver coin used together and interchangeably as money of final redemption unless the bullion value of the two coins be the same. At 16 to 1, the silver dollar's bullion value is only about half that of the gold dollar.

Hence the above plank excludes, in every way possible, the free coinage of silver at 16 to 1. It simply declares that the Ohio Republicans are friendly to silver, and favor its use as money; but they demand that it shall be made equal to gold, and decline to commit the party to any change of the money standard to the silver basis.

The platform is an excellent one, and commends itself to the Republicans of the entire country. It forecasts and anticipates the platform to be adopted by the national convention at St. Louis, and hence its importance transcends our own state's boundaries. The keynote of the Presidential campaign is struck, and the Republican position clearly defined.

The Republicans out in Nebraska have been testing the Presidential preferences of the rank and file of the party, by placing the names of the various candidates for the nomination on the tickets at the primary election. At Lincoln, out of a total of 3,400 votes, over 3,000 were for McKinley. At Beatrice, he received 800 votes out of a total of 900. These facts indicate the feeling of the Republican masses.

Italy has no difficulty in recognizing the Abyssinians as belligerents.

COMMENT OF THE WEEK.

The recent bond sale by the United States government may be regarded as practically completed, as less than $11,000,000 of the amount of gold due from the successful bidders for the issue remains to be paid into the treasury. The net treasury gold reserve now amounts to about $126,000,000, though some $21,000,000 received in payment for bonds remains in the special depository banks, and of this latter amount some $9,000,000 has not been taken up on the treasury's books. Added to the official reserve, this would make the net gold held by the government about $136,000,000, or $94,000,000 more than the minimum point touched in the first days of February before the payments for the bonds began. There are no indications of any large withdrawals of gold from the treasury, either to provide for the small balance of the bonds still unpaid or to meet gold contracts made by the bond subscribers at the commencement of the operation. Under existing circumstances, and especially as no gold exports are in sight, there is a feeling that the treasury can maintain its free gold reserve at about the present level for some months to come.

Something has already been done under the auspices of the national government to promote the cause of road improvement, but an effort is being made to extend its influence in the same direction. During the week the House committee on agriculture has given a hearing on a bill, recently introduced, to create a special commission on highways, whose purpose is to inquire generally how the government may further promote the improvement of highways and the best methods of securing a scientific location of highways on the public domain; the employment of the geological survey in the discovery of road materials and the free testing of these, and the construction of modern roads and instruction in road-making at agricultural colleges and experiment stations. So far the expressions of opinion received by the committee have been strongly in favor of the bill, which, its advocates say, contemplates no great expense and no increase of salaries, and the life of the commission proposed by which is limited in time.

From time to time suggestions have been brought forward for the creation of a department of commerce and manufactures, and criticism of the plan in its more general bearings meets with some difficulty, in view of the existence of the departments of agriculture and labor, the former of which was not long ago raised to cabinet rank. The last proposition of this kind is found in a bill introduced by Senator Frye, of Maine, which provides for the transfer to the department from the treasury of the life saving service, the lighthouse board, the marine hospital service, the bureau of steamboat inspection, the bureau of navigation, the coast and geodetic survey, and the bureau of statistics of the state department, the two bureaus of statistics to be consolidated into one.

The bill also provides for the transfer of the consular service from the jurisdiction of the state department to the proposed new department, and gives the department general jurisdiction over the foreign and internal commerce of the United States, except in so far as relates to the collection of the revenue and the administration of the customs and internal revenue laws. Under the bill the new department is further to have jurisdiction over all matters relating to the manufacturing interests of the United States, including the extension of foreign markets for the same, and the increase of commerce and trade facilities with foreign countries. The new secretary is also to perform all the duties now incumbent upon the secretary of the treasury in relation to the trade and commerce of the United States, whether upon land or water. It goes without saying that the bill will not lack supporters, but its early passage by the present Congress is scarcely to be looked for.

Italy has quieted down. The new ministry has been installed with the Marquis de Rudini at its head and Signor Sermoneta as the minister for foreign affairs. The fears that at first gained ground that the existence of the Triple Alliance was threatened appear to have subsided, and it is understood that a public manifestation intended to remove any vestige of that impression is in contemplation. It was at first supposed that the new ministry would prosecute the Abyssinian war with vigor, but later accounts appear to indicate that negotiations looking to a peaceful solution of the difficulty are under way.

UNDER THE DOME.

Speaker Reed was subjected to a rather curious cross-examination at the Capitol the other day. An old gentleman, formerly a resident of Maine, but who now lives in Boston, Mass., was looking for the ways and means committee room when he met the speaker stepping out of the elevator.

Although Mr. Reed's face is familiar to almost every man, woman and child in the United States, the visitor failed to recognize him and began to fire questions at the ruler of the House.

"Be you employed here?" was the first interrogatory, and being answered in the affirmative he proceeded to inquire as to the salary and duties of his informant. Mr. Reed was amused at first, but as a crowd began to gather he directed the inquisitive stranger to the desired committee room and disappeared into his own private sanctum.

A short while afterward the visitor was brought to Mr. Reed's room and introduced to him. The gentlemen discovered that they had, years ago, seen each other in Portland, where they had mutual acquaintances. Although a Democrat the ex-Maine man, as he bid the speaker good-by, told him he was afraid he would be the next President of the United States. And the smile on Mr. Reed's face was beautiful to behold.

Every nerve is being strained to obey Speaker Reed's order to keep the appropriations down and adjourn early. Those are the two things the speaker has said must be, and they will be. Every appropriation bill so far presented has been cut down to the lowest notch, and there is no reason to believe that there will be any more liberal appropriations in the bills that are now in preparation. Greater economy was never practiced and work never went faster at the beginning of a session. No previous Congress ever held morning and evening meetings so early in the session, neither were half the appropriation bills ever before disposed of by the middle of February. Congress bids fair to adjourn by June 1, and all the effort is being put forth not alone for the good of the country, but because it is believed that it will also help Mr. Reed's chances for the Presidential nomination.

There are people in Washington who are credited with more or less shrewdness who are not so sure that it will help Mr. Reed's chances. There is a possibility that instead of helping it will injure him. The paring process may overshoot the mark and do more damage than good. If the people who are seeking appropriations for all sorts of needed public improvements were told that the condition of the treasury and the country demanded rigid economy, and therefore their wishes could not be complied with, it might be all right, but they are not. What they are told is that the speaker wants the appropriations kept down, which is a horse of another color. Several thousand people have been told that and every one of them have gone away more or less disgruntled. Hundreds of thousands of people all over the country will believe that Mr. Reed has stood in the way of the improvements they wanted, and it can hardly be expected that they will feel very friendly toward him. Republicans generally believe that the public necessity should be the only criterion for appropriations.

Then it is possible, too, that an adjournment before the date of the convention will not have the effect that is anticipated. Mr. Reed desires, it is said, to give the country an object lesson on the Republican and Reed way of doing business, believing that the people will approve of the way and endorse the party and the man. There is no doubt that the country needs an object lesson in businesslike legislation, and will endorse the Republican party for furnishing it, but some of the politicians who are not very friendly to Mr. Reed are saying that so far as he is concerned it would perahps be better for him to keep Congress in session until after the date of the convention. They assert that Mr. Reed is not the idol of the House in this Congress, as he was in the Fifty-first, and they express a doubt as to the amount of work that would be done in his behalf by most of the members after they got home. They might suddenly develop a desire to work for McKinley or somebody else, and give expression to the desire in a way that would be impossible were they in Washington.

The spectacle of the speaker exercising through the comittee chairmen an influence upon, almost amounting to a complete control of, the business of the House makes one wonder if, after all, the Senate practice of selecting its chairmen and making up its own committees is not a better one. It would seem as though some such scheme ought to be adopted by the House. As it is now, the speaker is equal to the whole House, and to all intents and purposes its dictator. The chairmen of the committees owe their appointment to him, and, if they are not bound in advance to his policy, feel under such obligation to him that a request from him has the force of a command. Of course, the whole committee is greater than its chairman, and it could, if it so desired, override his decision, but that is a thing that is seldom done. Ordinarily the views of the chairman are the views of a majority of the committee. The decision of the committee is the decision of the House usually, and so by controlling the chairmen the speaker controls the whole House.

EXCELLENT SEEDS FREE.

On the 7th page of this issue we publish an offer of garden seeds to the subscribers of the Weekly Blade, of which we believe thousands will be glad to avail themselves. Read it carefully, for you get the best quality of seeds actually free of cost, if you send a subscription or a renewal at the same time.

REMEMBER—This offer is open only to those who remit $1 for subscription or renewal, after this date.

The seeds have been grown in Minnesota, and hence the plants will be hardy and strong in any climate. No reader of The Blade in the United States lives in so cold a region that these seeds will not give full satisfaction. Per contra, those living further south, and hence in a warmer climate, will find these seeds most excellent. They will produce more vigorous plants than seeds grown in warmer latitudes. Read the offer carefully. You never had a better opportunity to get first-class seeds. It pays to get the best seeds of the best varieties, for the yield is larger and the product better.

OUR BATTLE PICTURES.

Do not fail to read our offer of splendid battle pictures for renewals or new subscriptions to the Weekly Blade. It will be found in the "Publishers' Column," the first thing on the fifth page.

NOTICE particularly that this offer is ONLY to those who send us $1 for a subscription or renewal, after this date.

The pictures are splendid. They are fine enough to ornament the walls of the most magnificent private residence. They are all reproductions of oil paintings in historic detail. Read the offer carefully, and avail yourself of it.

THE FEMININE OBSERVER.

All the new bodices have ripple backs.

Rose pink figures largely in summer fabrics.

The latest wedding invitation envelopes are oblong.

Poster collecting is the latest fad of the up-to-date woman.

The parasol idea is carried out in skirts, wraps and even hats.

The feather boa that is out of curl had far better be left at home.

If March prove blustery furs will not after all be a drug on the market.

Some new candle shades are in silver with an edge of fluffy colored silk.

Yorkshire denims are among the most artistic draperies of the season.

All sorts of trays are seen on the up-to-date bureaus, but a pin cushion is a rarity.

In a strawberry and a half cost six cents what will the shopman ask for a peach?

Some new ribbons for half mourning wear show gray white and black clouded effects.

Dull blues and vivid rose pinks are used in fashionable shirtings for the summer man.

How many times over you spend the five dollars that you lost or had stolen from you.

Easter novelties are now either being made or bought by those who never let a chance to give a present slip by.

Black is selected for smart dinner gowns to be worn during Lent by women who go in heavily for eternal fitness of things.

A freak in stationery is to have the corner of a widow's card quite black, while the rest of the space is plain dead white.

An orange straw hat trimmed with white satin loops and violets will be worn by a like their rooms to be furnished in various colors.

Sarah Bernhardt chats in most delightful fashion about her little grandchildren. Her only regret is that the second was not a boy.

The "forest green finish" on artistic bed room suits is much desired by women who like their rooms to be furnished in various colors.

Garters for a bride shown at a leading jeweler's are of white silk elastic held by clasps of gold on which are a couple of fleur de lis in diamonds.

Edna Wallace Hopper is one woman who has no superstitious fears of opals. She wears several lovely rings in which these stones are set combined with diamonds.

THE WORLD OF WOMEN.

Brief Mention of Events Which Have Occurred.

Wyoming, O., has a "Bachelor Maids" Club.

The Newspaper Woman's Club, of Chicago, gave a memorial entertainment last Tuesday evening in honor of "Amber" (Mrs. M. E. Holden) at the Palmer House.

Hon. Warner H. Bateman, brother of Mr. Elwood Bateman, of this city, addressed the "Woman's Civic League" of Cincinnati at its last quarterly meeting on the subject, "Democracy Generically Considered."

The Jane Douglas Chapter of the Daughters of the Revolution is a flourishing auxiliary to the National Association at Dallas, Tex. Among its active members are Mrs. Fannie Segur Foster and Mrs. S. I. Miner. The first public work of the society is a petition for an international court of arbitration.

Mrs. Elizabeth Coit, of Columbus, treasurer of the Ohio Woman Suffrage Association, has been very ill, though convalescent last week.

An executive committee meeting of the Ohio Woman Suffrage Association has been called at Unity church, Cleveland, Wednesday, March 11, at 10 o'clock a. m.

By a species of ripper legislation no effort was recently made to disfranchise woman school electors in all cities of Michigan of the fourth class, there being 53 in the state. The legislature, however, referred the question to the people, and every city voted "No."

Miss Susan B. Anthony was at Ann Arbor last week, and has left for California, where she will be the guest of Mrs. Sargent during the woman suffrage campaign.

SCRAPS OF SCIENCE.

At Great Falls, Mont., electric power is so cheap that all public and domestic work is done with its aid.

Twenty millions of meteors are said to fall upon the earth every day, their aggregate weight amounting to several tons.

A new insulating material for telegraphic and other work is being introduced by a Cardiff firm of engineers. It is stated to be much less costly than the present material, and cannot be broken or cracked.

A new and wonderful substitute for common brittle glass is announced by a Vienna journal devoted to the glass and porcelain trade. The substitute is said to have all the properties of common glass, except that it is flexible. It is made of cullodian wool.

It is believed that shooting stars are small solid bodies, revolving round the sun. As they are traveling in a contrary direction to the earth, the velocity with which they enter our atmosphere is very great—on an average about thirty miles a second.

It may be of interest to learn that of the fourteen new stars discovered within the past 300 years, four were discovered by Mrs. Fleming, of the Harvard Observatory, namely, one in the constellation of Perseus, in 1887, one in Norma, in 1893, and one each in Carina and Centaurus, during the present year.

M. Piltschikoff, in describing recent photographs of lightning, names three types of flash—band lightning, tube lightning and water-spout lightning. The first two he found to occur in all storms, the third he met with once only. From the measured width of the band lightning on photographs, and the computed distance, he estimates the actual widths to be from about fifteen to eighty yards.

ITEMS OF INTEREST.

Whales are never found in the gulf stream.

The Turkish court pianist, Dussap,

Publishers' Column.

FAMOUS BATTLE PICTURES.

Owing to a popular demand from our subscribers, and especially from members of the G. A. R., we have arranged with a large publisher for a quantity of pictures of the most celebrated battles of the civil war. These pictures are of a high grade, chromo colors, large size (22x28), reproduced from the original oil paintings with wonderful accuracy. More than 100,000 have been sold during the past year at one dollar each, and our price to any person, who orders a picture alone will be one dollar. But we did not get these pictures for sale or for profit. We propose to give one picture free, postpaid by mail, to every person sending us $1 for the Weekly Blade one year. If your time expires soon, you can obtain a picture when you renew. If your time expires some time hence, and you want a picture now, send a dollar, and let us extend your time a year ahead from date of expiration. Or, get us a new subscriber and we will enter the new name for Blade one year, and send the picture to the remitter, if so directed. However, we are confident those who obtain one picture, will want several more, or perhaps all of them. You can obtain them one at a time by sending us new dollar subscribers. Try one of them when you renew.

NOTICE, however, that the above offer is only to those who send us $1 for subscription or renewal after this date.

Here is the list; make your selection from it:

Battle of Gettysburg, Pa.
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Battle of Missionary Ridge, Tenn
Battle of The Wilderness, Va.
Battle of Fort Donelson, Tenn.
Battle of Champion Hill, Miss.
Battle of Antietam, Md.
Battle of Atlanta, Ga.
Battle of Spottsylvania, Va.
Battle of Vicksburg, Miss.
Battle of Chattanooga, Tenn.
Battle of Cold Harbor, Va.
Battle of Resaca, Ga.
Battle of Lookout Mountain, Tenn.
Battle of Olustee, Fla.
Battle of Fredericksburg, Va.
Battle of Bunker Hill.
Battle of Tippecanoe.
Battle between the Monitor and the Merrimac.
Battle of Pea Ridge, Ark.
Battle of Bull's Run, Va.
Battle of Chancellorsville, Va.
Battle of Big Horn (Custer's Last Charge.)
Battle of Chickamauga, Ga.
Storming of Fort Wagner, S. C.
Capture of Fort Fisher, N. C.
Battle of New Orleans, La.
Battle of Cedar Creek, Va.
Capture and Death of Sitting Bull.
Battle of Kenesaw Mountain, Ga.
Battle of Stone River, Tenn.
Assault on Fort Sanders, Tenn.
Battle of Franklin, Tenn.
Battle of Nashville, Tenn.
Battle of Corinth, Miss.
Perry's Victory on Lake Erie.
Fort Pillow Massacre, Tenn.
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WATERPROOF OVERCOATS.

The goods we offered to the subscribers of The Blade last year met with such favor that we have concluded this year to extend our list of waterproof coats for men and ladies. The prices this year will be somewhat lower than last, and we have added to the list. We offer both single texture and double texture, sewed and seamed. These goods are not pasted together, but SUBSTANTIALLY SEWED.

We prepay express charges, and deliver these goods at your nearest express office. When you order, please give your postoffice and your express office address.

Men's Waterproofs, Double Texture, With Detachable Capes.

No. 500 black diagonal, double stitch seams $5 50
No. 501 tan diagonal, double stitch seams 5 50
No. 502, blue diagonal, double stitch seams 5 50
No. 550, Black Henrietta, double stitch seams 6 00
No. 551, Blue Henrietta, double stitch seams 6 00
No. 552, Tan Covert, double stitch seams 6 00
No. 600, Blue All Wool, double stitch seams 7 50
No. 601, Blue All Wool, double stitch seams 7 50

Men's Double-Breasted Box, Velvet Collar, No Cape.

No. 700, Black, All Wool, seams sewed and strapped $8 00
No. 701, Blue, All Wool, seams sewed and strapped 8 00

Regular sizes are 34, 36, 38, 40, 42, 44, 46, 48, breast measure. A 40-inch coat is supposed to fit a man whose breast measure over his under coat is 40 inches. State size you want.

Women's Mackintoshes—Inverness Garments. (Sleeveless.)

No. 800, single texture, fast black, with 27-inch cape, unlined $4 00
No. 801, single texture, fast tan, with 27-inch cape, unlined 4 00
No. 802, single texture, fast blue, with 27-inch cape, unlined 4 00
No. 803, double texture, fast black Henrietta, 27-inch cape 6 00
No. 804, double texture, fast blue Henrietta, 27-inch cape 6 00
No. 805, double texture, black Henrietta, double cape detachable 7 00
No. 806, double texture, blue Henrietta, double cape detachable 7 00

Give your bust measure and length down the back from collar seam to bottom of skirt. We will require some little time for filling these orders, as they have to be forwarded East to the factory, after we get the orders, and in most cases the garments are made to order. Subscribers, therefore, should not look for these goods sooner than three weeks after they mail us the order. Address THE BLADE, TOLEDO, OHIO.

NICKEL SILVER TABLE WARE.

It is Better Than Plated Stuff and Saves Much Worry.

We are now enabled to offer to subscribers of The Blade (and to subscribers only, remember,) teaspoons, dessert spoons, tablespoons and forks, made of composition known as nickel silver, which so closely resembles solid silver that an expert might be deceived. It is indestructible, does not tarnish so easily as solid silver from exposure to the air, and it is finished in the same manner as the solid silver goods. The patterns are no thicker than solid silver.

Prices.

They are sent by registered mail, postpaid, at the following prices:

1 dozen teaspoons $1 25
½ dozen teaspoons 85
1 dozen tablespoons or forks 2 35
½ dozen tablespoons or forks 1 35
1 dozen dessert spoons or forks 2 00
½ dozen dessert spoons or forks 1 15
½ dozen table knives 2 25
1 dozen table knives 4 25

These are made in only the one pattern. They are sent by express. There can be no variation from these offers. Only subscribers to The Blade can buy at these prices, but they can buy as much as they like.

ASSURANCE.

To-day you turned your face away
And seemed to doubt me,
To-night your acme of delight
Is but to flout me.
But sweetheart, I will wait
Love has no laggard gait,
And though he seem away,
Far off he comes to-day,
To-morrow you will say:

"Dear heart, of all the things thou art,
The best is boldness.
Believe me not when e'er I grieve
Thy heart with coldness.
Take me within thy arms,
Shield me from doubting harms,
For I am thine alway;
My love can never stray;
And did not yesterday?"

—J. Edmund V. Cooke in the New York Sun.

She Was Both.

"So that there's a new woman, is it?" asked Uncle Ebenezer.

"It is," replied the city nephew.

"Why, dern me, I'd have put her down as an old woman."

"Well, she's that, too," admitted the city nephew, as he got a good look at her face.—Chicago Post.

A Simile in Smoke.

There's all sorts of grades of tobacco plant. The best comes from Havana. There's all sorts of grades of sarsaparilla plant. The best comes from Honduras. If you want cheap tobacco, all right—provided you get value for your money. Cheap tobacco's not as good to smoke—but it don't cost as much.

If you want cheap sarsaparilla . . . But you don't want it. Of course you don't. You are paying for the best. To pay for the best and get anything but Honduras sarsaparilla is like paying for Havana cigars and getting Pittsburg "Stogies." There's only one sarsaparilla made exclusively from the imported Honduras plant. That's Ayer's. Just keep it in mind that you are paying for Honduras sarsaparilla when you are paying for the best; but you don't get what you pay for unless you get Ayer's Sarsaparilla.

Any doubt about it? Send for the "Curebook."
It kills doubts but cures doubters.
Address: J. C. Ayer Co., Lowell, Mass.

CUT PAPER PATTERNS

Splendid Offer to Lady Readers of The Blade.

NO. 6695—LADIES' RIPPLE BASQUE.

Three different styles of this fashionable addition to waists and short basques are included in the pattern. They are usually made from the material to match or contrast with the waist, and when the double basque is used, the lower one can be of silk or velvet to match the collar, revers, or

No. 6695—LADIES' RIPPLE BASQUES.

vest of basque. These basques are distinctive features of the new spring styles, and so will be found useful in remodeling waists or gowns for the coming season. No. 1 is a double basque that is joined in a seam at center back and flares widely apart in front, the edges reaching the front darts of the waist. No. 2 is shaped with deep points front and back, the edges coming closely together. No. 3 is a single round basque joined in center back, with front edges that meet close together.

The quantity of material 36 inches wide required to make these ripple basques for a lady having a 26-inch waist measure is 1 yard for No. 1 design, ¾ of a yard for No. 2 design, and ⅝ of a yard for No. 3 design.

The pattern, which is 6695, and retails for 25 cents, is cut in sizes for a 22, 26 and 30 inches waist measure.

NO. 6691—LADY'S SHIRT WAIST.

Striped grass linen made this stylish shirt waist, all edges being neatly finished with a single row of machine stitching. A box plait is formed on the edge of right front, through which buttonholes are worked, to use in closing with studs or buttons, as preferred. The fullness is prettily disposed in gathers at the neck on each side of the box plait. The full back is gathered at the top and joined to a yoke lining having a straight lower edge, the double-pointed yoke with bias edges joined in a center seam being laid over and stitched down on the lower edge, thus giving a durable finish that will not lose its shape when laundered. The fullness at the waist line is regulated by a casing in back, through which tapes are drawn and tied in front, the lower edges that are of full basque length being hidden under the dress

No. 6691—LADIES' SHIRT WAIST.

skirt. Two collars are provided by the pattern, a high standing and a turnover collar that is mounted on a deep band and closes with double studs. The Paquin shirt sleeves are gathered top and bottom, slashed openings at the back being finished with under and pointed over laps; deep cuffs that turn back in gauntlet style finishing the wrists. Plain and fancy Oxford and Madras shirtings, percale, dimity, cambric, lawn, chambray can thus be made in pretty and becoming colors, the variety to choose from this season being larger than ever before.

The quantity of material 36 inches wide required to make this shirt waist for a lady having a 36-inch bust measure is 4¼ yards.

The pattern, which is No. 6691 and retails for twenty-five cents, is cut in sizes for a 32-inch, 34-inch, 36-inch, 40-inch, 42-inch and 44-inch bust measure.

NO. 6690—CHILD'S DRESS.

Figured challie in green and white is here daintily decorated with lace edging, and narrow green ribbon put on with fancy stitching. The simple little dress has a plain, smooth body, fitted with shoulder and

No. 6690—CHILD'S DRESS.

under-arm seams, that closes in center back with buttons and buttonholes. Full gathered bretelles are arranged over the shoulders, an inverted V being formed by the trimming in front. The neck is finished by a pretty rolling collar that flares apart in front and back. The full bishop sleeves are gathered top and bottom and completed with round cuffs at the wrists. The full round skirt is deeply hemmed at the foot, the top being gathered and sewed with a cord to the lower edge of waist. The dress is specially adapted to wash fabrics, such as gingham, lawn, dimity, etc., embroidery and lace edging, insertion or fancy stitching making suitable decoration. Flannelette, merino, cashmere, camel's hair or soft serge will also make up prettily by this pattern.

The quantity of 36-inch wide material required to make this dress for a child one year old is 2½ yards; for a four-year-old size, 2⅞ yards; for an eight-year-old size, 3 yards.

The pattern, which is No. 6696 and retails for twenty-five cents, is cut in sizes for one, two, four, six and eight-year-old children.

NO. 6700—LADIES' COLLETS.

For early spring and cool days in summer these collets are very necessary, stylish and becoming to wear with street gowns or light jackets. Two of the most popular styles are here given as one pattern. No. 1 has a pointed yoke of black velvet, almost covered with jet passementerie, a circular ripple cape of black satin being joined to its lower edge, which is handsomely trimmed with lace fulled on and headed with narrow beading. A full ruching of lace or chiffon stylishly finishes the neck, which can be omitted in favor of the flaring Medici collar supplied by the pattern. No. 2 is made from emerald velvet richly decorated with jet passementerie in scrolls and edged all around with black ostrich feather ruching. It can be closed to the neck or left open as here illustrated and

No. 6700—LADY'S COLLETS.

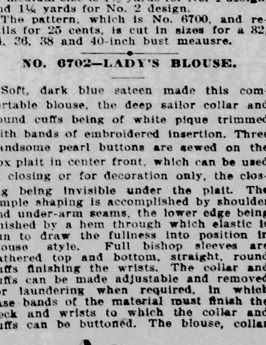
cut with or without the notches in back and front. Both capes are lined with fancy taffeta, a firm interlining adding to the warmth and improving the set of these stylish collets.

The quantity of material 44 inches wide required to make these collets for a lady of medium size is 1⅝ yards for No. 1 design, and 1⅛ yards for No. 2 design.

The pattern, which is No. 6700, and retails for 25 cents, is cut in sizes for a 32, 34, 36, 38 and 40-inch bust measure.

NO. 6702—LADY'S BLOUSE.

Soft, dark blue sateen made this comfortable blouse, the deep sailor collar and round cuffs being of white pique trimmed with bands of embroidered insertion. Three handsome pearl buttons are sewed on the box plait in center front, which can be used in closing or for decoration only, the closing being invisible under the plait. The simple shaping is accomplished by shoulder and under-arm seams, the lower edge being finished by a hem through which elastic is run to draw the fullness into position in blouse style. Full bishop sleeves are gathered top and bottom, straight, round cuffs finishing the wrists. The collar and cuffs can be made adjustable and removed for laundering when required, in which case bands of the material must finish the neck and wrists to which the collar and cuffs can be buttoned. The blouse, collar



No. 6702—LADY'S BLOUSE.

and cuffs can be made from one material, such as serge, flannel or cloth, and closed in front with buttons and buttonholes in center of box plait. For ordinary wear, rowing, physical culture, gymnasium or athletic exercises this blouse will be found convenient and comfortable.

The quantity of material 36 inches wide required to make this blouse for a lady having a 36-inch bust measure is 3¾ yards.

The pattern, which is No. 6702 and retails for twenty-five cents, is cut in sizes for a 32, 34, 36, 38, 40 and 42-inch bust measure.

NO. 6703—LADY'S JACKET, AND NO. 6671—LADY'S SKIRT.

Olive and black fancy boucle cloth made this stylish Spring suit, the collar and pocket laps being faced with velvet. Large fancy buttons close the double-breasted front, and the seams of the mandolin sleeves are piped with velvet. The jacket is extremely chic and the mode is becoming to all figures. The loose fitting fronts are lapped widely in double-breasted style, the back and sides fitting smoothly to just below the waist line, where each section is sprung to give the stylish ripple or fluted effect now fashionable. The gored sleeves are in three sections, the upper seams being joined with velvet piping. The fullness at the top is laid in two box plaits, with forward and backward turning plaits on each side. Pocket laps that conceal pockets inserted on each front are faced to within half an inch of the edge with velvet, the high rolling collar being faced to match. Small buttons to match the large ones are placed in a row at each wrist. The fashionable skirt is of ample but not extravagant width, measuring a little over four and a half yards at the foot. It consists of five gores, two in back, one on each side, and one in front, the placket being finished at the top of the centre back

No. 6703—LADY'S JACKET, AND No. 6671—LADY'S SKIRT.

seam. Fin-de-siecle spring outfits have all at least one walking suit in this style, the jacket being worn over a blouse waist of silk that matches its lining. An interlining can be added for additional warmth, if necessary, and the petticoat made of the same silk as the blouse and jacket lining. Mohair, cheviot, serge, tweed and other wool suitings in checks, boucle or mixed effects will all develop stylishly by the mode.

The quantity of material, 44 inches wide, required to make this jacket for a lady having a 36-inch bust measure, is 2¾ yards.

The jacket pattern, which is No. 6703 and retails for twenty-five cents, is cut in sizes for a 32, 34, 36, 40 and 42-inch bust measure.

To make the skirt it will require of the same width material 4½ yards and four imitation eggs will be as natural in appearance as a real one.

The skirt pattern, which is No. 6671 and retails for thirty cents, is cut for a 22, 24, 26, 28 and 30-inch waist measure.

READ THE OFFER:

The above pattern or patterns will be mailed to any address for only 10 cents each. We will fill orders from any person, whether a regular or occasional reader of The Blade. In ordering, address "Pattern Department, Blade, Toledo, Ohio," enclose ten cents silver for each pattern wanted, (do not send stamps if you can obtain other funds). State both title and number of pattern. No coupon required.

Full description and directions—as the number of yards and material required, the size and names of the different pieces in the pattern, how to cut and fit and put the garment together—are sent with each pattern, with a picture of the garment to go by. These patterns are complete in every particular, there being a separate pattern for every single piece of the dress.

For ladies, give BUST measure in inches. For SKIRT pattern, give WAIST measure in inches. For misses, boys, girls or children, give BREAST measure in inches. Order patterns by number and give size in inches.

To get BUST or BREAST measure, put the tape measure all of the way around the body, over the dress, close under the arms.

OLD FAVORITES.

Published by request.

ORCHARD LANDS OF LONG AGO.

The orchard lands of long ago!
O drowsy winds awake and blow
The snowy blossoms back to me,
And all the buds that used to be!
Blow back among the grassy ways
Of truant feet, and lift the haze
Of happy summer from the trees
That trail their tresses in the seas
Of grain that float and overflow
The orchard lands of long ago!

Blow back the melody that slips
In lazy laughter from the lips
That marvel much that any kiss
Is sweeter than the apple is.
Blow back the twitter of the birds;
The lisp, the trills, and all the words
Of merriment that found the shine
Of summertime a glorious wine.
That drenched the leaves that loved it so
In orchard lands of long ago.

O Memory, alight and sing
Where rosy-bellied pippins cling,
And golden russets glint and gleam
As in the old Arabian dream—
The fruits of that enchanted tree
The gods robbed for me!
And drowsy winds, awake and fan
My blood as when it overran,
A heart ripe as the apples grow,
In orchard lands of long ago!

—James Whitcomb Riley.

Published by request.

THE GIRL OF LONG AGO.

I think she was fairer than the girl of to-day—
She was dearer by far, I know;
And never I questioned the queenly sway
Of the girl of long ago.

Then where is the darling of long ago,
When the blood ran warm as wine?
Is she under the lilies or under the snow,
The darlingest girl of mine?

Has she laid down to rest with the sod on her breast,
The cherished of long ago?
Has she wandered afar, where the strange things are?
Is her dark hair white as snow?

Oh, whether afar, where the strange ways are,
Or whether above or below,
God keep her from harm, for her heart it was warm,
And, oh, I loved her so!

—Joaquin Miller.

He Shouldn't Think.

Teacher—Thomas, I saw you laugh just now. What were you laughing about?

Tommy—I was just thinkin' about something.

"You have no business thinking during school hours. Don't let it occur again."—London Answers.

WHY NOT?

Why does she wear her jet black hair
Down in a curling tangle
Hiding from me what I fain would see,
A neck without an angle?

Why veil with lace the clear-cut face
We've all of us learned to love?
Why hide from sight her hand so white,
In the grasp of a greedy glove?

She hath a pair of ankles rare,
If we'd believe all rumors:
So give us a treat—come out in the street
In a bathing suit—or bloomers.

—Nickel Magazine.

THE CIGARETTE CROP.

Manufacturers Turn Out About Two Hundred Every Year for Each Adult Male.

About the only "fabulous figures" (or figures thought to be fabulous by many) of American products or manufacture used to be those of the corn crop of the United States, exceeding 1,000,000,000 bushels a year, and touching in 1891 the enormous total of 2,060,000,000. But these mammoth figures of the production of corn in the United States are totally eclipsed by the figure of cigarette manufacture, says the New York Sun, the total number of cigarettes made in this country last year being 3,020,000,000. The total number of male persons in the United States between the ages of 18 and 44 was returned by the last census as 13,230,000; but adding those above 44 years of age and making allowances for the increase in population since 1890, it is safe to say that there are 18,000,000 men and boys of "cigarette-smoking" age in the United States, and this would give an average of 200 cigarettes for each man and boy in the republic every year, provided, of course, that cigarette smoking was general instead of being, as it is, restricted to a very small fraction of the whole population, mostly in the cities and large towns.

The average of 200 cigarettes apiece a year for the whole male population of the country above the age of 18 gives a fair idea not only of the consumption of cigarettes, which is now almost stationary in volume, but also of the manufacture of cigarettes, which is practically limited to three states. At the head of all others comes New York, which manufactures in a year just about one-half of all the cigarettes consumed, 1,800,000,000. Then comes Virginia, with a record last year of 825,000,000 and third, North Carolina (uncomfortably near the foot in other matters of manufacture), with 740,000,000. These three states may be said to monopolize the cigarette-making business, for after them come, quite a distance behind, Louisiana, with 150,000,000, and Maryland, with 36,000,000. New York state enjoys the distinction not only of making, but of smoking more cigarettes than any other state in the Union, whereas it can be said in extenuation of North Carolina and Virginia that they make cigarettes for consumption elsewhere, not for home use. The consumption of tobacco for cigarette making, though a well defined, popular prejudice rejects the idea of any tobacco being used in cigarettes, is 12,000,000 pounds a year, and of this 6,000,000 pounds are used by the New York cigarette factories, 3,300,000 pounds by the Virginia factories and 2,500,000 by the North Carolina factories. By far the largest part of the North Carolina tobacco crop goes for cigarettes. This is not true of any state except Virginia.

The number of cigars manufactured in the United States last year, including, of course, those said to be "imported," was 400,100,000, and at the head of all the states in the manufacture of these was Pennsylvania, New York coming second, Ohio third, Illinois fourth and Florida (Key West) fifth. It is encouraging for New Yorkers to know that, although Pennsylvania made more cigars than this state, New York used more tobacco in hers. Kentucky raises an enormous amount of tobacco, but does not use very much of it for manufacturing purposes, Kentucky tobacco being sent to other states. The Kentucky tobacco crop last year was 130,000,000 pounds, of which less than 900,000 pounds were manufactured in the state. Connecticut, too, raises much tobacco and manufactures little. Eighteen pounds of tobacco are required for 1,000 cigars and three and one-half pounds of tobacco for 1,000 cigarettes.

—Out of weakness comes strength when the blood has been purified, enriched and vitalized by Hood's Sarsaparilla.

Some Puns.

Grocers—Put plenty of "ginger" in the business and "prune" down the expenses.

Hardware Dealer—"Keep hammering" away and you'll "nail" plenty of customers.

Green Fruit Dealers—"By their fruits ye shall know them."

Haberdashers—"Collar" the dollars and the cents will look after themselves.

Delicatessen Dealers—The "wurst" spell of trade has an ending.

Jewelers and Watchmakers—"Watch" your business carefully. Eternal vigilance is the price of success.

Shoe Dealers—"Goods well bought are half-sold." Treat patrons so that the first sale won't be the last."

Confectioners'—Give customers satisfaction; that's a heap better than "taffy."

Florist and Fishdealers—You needn't be "fresh," but your stock ought to be.

Butchers—Don't "steak" your hopes on the promise of delinquent debtors. "Chop" 'em off from further credit at once.—Merchant's Review.

FUN WITH EGGS.

How They May Be Made to Obey or Disobey.

Let us tell you how you may have a little fun. Puncture the shell of a raw egg with a pin, and through the hole thus made extract the contents. When the shell has become thoroughly dry, pour fine sand through the pin hole until the egg is about one-fourth filled. Then seal up the hole with white wax, and your imitation egg will be as natural in appearance as a real one.

The next time boiled eggs are served at breakfast, substitute your sand egg for the one you take from the dish, and tell your companions that you are going to make the egg obey your slightest wish. You may

THE OBEDIENT EGG.

make it stand on the edge of a knife or on the rim of a glass, no matter whether you put it sideways or endways.

The only precaution necessary is to tap the egg gently every time you desire to replace it in any position, so as to make the sand settle at the bottom, and the weight of the sand will keep it as you wish it to be. This is called the Obedient Egg.

Now let us tell you how to make the Disobedient Egg, with which you may have even more fun than with the obedient one. Make the hole in the shell large enough to allow you to introduce from a quarter to an ounce of fine shot, together with a little powdered sealing wax.

This done, seal up the hole neatly with white wax, and then warm the egg gently over the fire. This will give you a fixed center of gravity in the egg, and no matter how you may pretent to place it, the weight of the shot, held in mass by the sealing wax, will drag it away from its position just as soon as you release it.

To Become Beautiful.

Eat fruit for breakfast.
Eat fruit for luncheon.
Avoid pastry.
Shun muffins and crumpets.
And buttered toast.
Eat wholemeal bread.
Refuse rice pudding.
Decline potatoes if they are served more than once per day.
Do not drink too much tea or coffee.
Walk four miles every day.
Take a bath every day.
Wash the face every night in warm water.
Sleep eight hours a night.—London Answers.

A HISTORIC BUILDING.

The Old Postoffice at Charleston Has Seen Famous Men.

"Among the quaint old structures of Charleston our old postoffice building takes the lead for historic interest," said Mr. James S. Murdock, a leading wholesale merchant of the Carolina metropolis at the Ebbitt to a Washington Post reporter. Mr. Murdock is here with a delegation of his townmen to ask Congress to make a modest appropriation so as to donate the aforesaid antique edifice to the city.

"The old postoffice," said he, "was built of brick imported from England in 1767 under the direction of a committee of the colonial assembly. Its leading members were John Rutledge, Henry Laurens and Thomas Lynch, who later took a prominent part in the formation of the republic and whose names will be found among the signers of the declaration of independence. During the occupation of Charleston by the British it was used as a prison and between sixty and seventy of the best citizens were confined there before their removal to St. Augustine, Fla. In the number was Col. Isaac Haynes of the celebrated family of that name. In revenge for the execution of Maj. Andre, Haynes was led out from prison and suffered the death penalty by order of Col. Balfour, then in command, without the formality of a trial.

"In 1790, when Gen. Washington visited Charleston, it was in the same old building that he was entertained and a splendid ball was given in his honor by the wealthy planters of the state, co-operating with the town people. With such historic associations surrounding it our people naturally take a deep interest in their old postoffice, and the idea is to keep it in its original condition as a sacred memento of the past."

Permanent Boarder.

Skinner—Is Mr. Laylow one of your permanent boarders?

The Landlady—He is. I told him he couldn't leave until he had paid up.—Life.

THROUGH WOOD.

EDISON'S ASTOUNDING DISCOVERY —LOOKING THROUGH A SOLID.

He Can See Moving Objects Through an Eight-Inch Block of Solid Wood.

Thomas A. Edison has progressed so far in his experiments with the Roentgen ray that it is now possible to see with the naked eye through a solid block of wood eight inches in depth.

This marvelous feat was accomplished by Mr. Edison Saturday in the presence of a reporter for the New York Journal. The reporter himself, after Mr. Edison had arranged all the apparatus so that the best results could be seen, looked through the eight-inch block, which was of solid, heavy yellow pine, and saw distinctly the outlines of his fingers at the other end.

Startling Possibilities.

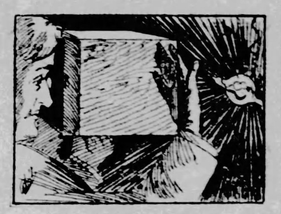
Mr. Edison declares that it is simply a question of further experiment and more powerful light when the human eye will be able to see through solid metals, brick walls, sealed letters and the human body. Mr. Edison believes that there is no reason why physicians may not look into our heart, lungs and stomach.

Mr. Edison has been at his experiments practically day and night since the discovery of the Roentgen ray was first announced. His aim has been to do away with photography in penetrating solid substances, and to perfect his apparatus so that the human eye can do the work of the photographic plate.

"It is simply," said Mr. Edison, "a question of perfecting the apparatus. To that end I am working. Roentgen's results demonstrate conclusively that if we only can secure the proper condition there is no reason why the human eye, with the aid of the X ray, cannot penetrate walls just as easy as it now penetrates the open atmosphere. You can see for yourself what we can do already with conditions that are by no means controllable or absolute."

In the Laboratory.

Mr. Edison thereupon permitted the reporter to see for himself just what could be done. The experiments at the laboratory out in Orange are conducted in a darkened room, where the machinery for the exhaustion of incandescent lamps is mounted. It is here that the Crookes tubes, which are nothing more or less



LOOKING THROUGH WOOD.

than a sort of double incandescent lamp, without wires, are prepared for the experiments. The tubes are glass bulbs, oblong in shape, and with pear-shaped ends. The two poles are fastened at either end, from which wires that run to the battery are connected.

"What we have accomplished so far is very encouraging," said Mr. Edison. "With the aid of a fluorescent screen we have been able to see objects through all manner of substances except metals, bone and a few other substances. Here, try this yourself. We will begin with this copy of a magazine. You see it is over half an inch of solid paper, and yet with the aid of our screen you can demonstrate for yourself that you can see through it, that it is translucent."

The Fluorescent Screen.

The "fluorescent screen" of which Mr. Edison spoke, is a most primitive and simple affair. It is composed of two layers of mica, about four inches square. Between these layers are spread tiny crystals of platino cyanide of barium. These crystals are about half as large as the crystals of ordinary granulated sugar, and they are spread as thin as possible between the mica, which is then fastened at the ends. Platino cyanide of barium is an exceedingly scarce and costly salt, which has the property of fluorescence or phosphorescence, that is, the property of holding and giving out light, very much as the diamond or phosphorus gives out light.

It is this property which makes it possible for the human eye to see through a fluorescent screen rays of light which would otherwise be invisible. In other words, these crystals have the power of receiving and retaining the light rays and carrying them into the eye, just as a photographic plate has the power of retaining the rays in such a way as to effect a chemical decomposition that shall leave a photograph.

The Apparatus.

For the purpose of his experiments, Mr. Edison takes this "fluorescent screen" and fastens it to the bottom of an empty pasteboard box that is covered with black paper. The box is about six inches square and seven inches deep, but its proportions have nothing to do with the actual results of the experiments. In the top of the box, immediately above the screen, there is cut a round hole for the eye. This completes, with the Crookes tube, the entire apparatus that is necessary, and that was used by the reporter in looking through the solid body of a magazine and blocks of wood of varying thicknesses. Pressing the eye closely to the peep-hole in the top of the box, and holding it as close as possible to the tube from which the cathode rays were being discharged, a white space could be distinctly seen through the solid bottom of the box. That was the first experiment.

"Now," said Mr. Edison, "pass your hand along the bottom of the box, so that it comes between your eye and the light. Can you see anything?"

A shadow was distinctly visible through the thickness of pasteboard. Every movement of the fingers could be clearly traced.

"Now, then, put up the magazine."

The magazine, the current number of the Cosmopolitan, was put up in front of the box, and the reporter looked again. The white space was seen as clear and distinct almost as it was when the bottom of the box alone intervened between the eye and the glass tube. The working of the fingers and every movement of the hand could be as distinctly made out.

Next a block of wood eight inches thick was used. The block and the box were placed in position. The reporter passed his hand across the face of the block of wood and clearly saw his hand and fingers.

After that Mr. Edison's declaration that the time would come when a person could look through a brick wall no longer had a trace of the improbable about it.

Drunkenness is a Disease.

Will send free book of particulars how to cure Drunkenness or the Liquor Habit with or without knowledge of the patient. DR. J. W. HAINES, 187 Race st., Cincinnati, O.

LULLABY.

Weary eyes, my little one, 'tis time to go to rest,
Rockababy, rockababy—Hush! Ah, me!
See the merry dreflies, they dance in mother's breast;
Rockababy, rockababy—sleep and see!
Hark! the song is echoing, tiny bells are tinkling,
Jack-o'-lanterns frolic where the airy fairies
Far above the tree-tops buttons bright are twinkling,
Fastened there for little ones who dance always.
Rockababy, sleep, then; angels hover round thee;
Mother's heart a pillow soft, mother's song a prayer.
Baby's eyes are weary, closed eyes, my dearie—
Quiet, then my little one—There, sweet! There!

—P. D. Mackenzie in The American.

Shutting Him Up.

An excursionist on board a steamer recently annoyed his fellow passengers, not without sometimes amusing them, by his remarks on every object that presented itself to view.

Hearing that the ship in sight was ten miles off, he rushed about the ship exclaiming—

"Look at that ship! What do you think? She is ten miles off! Only think, sir, we can see an object ten miles off!"

"Man," said a quiet Irishman, whom he thus addressed, "did ye never see the mune?"—Exchange.

A Deep Scheme.

"She is that stingy," said Bridget Agnes to her caller, "if I wrap up the least bit of tay for th' folks at home, sure she misses it at once."

"Fwy," asked the visitor, "don't ye take it out of the bottom av the can?"—Indianapolis Journal.

If you want a sure relief for pains in the back, side, chest, or limbs, use an

Allcock's Porous Plaster

BEAR IN MIND—Not one of the host of counterfeits and imitations is as good as the genuine.

PIANOS! ORGANS! FREE!

TEST TRIAL FOR 30 DAYS IN YOUR OWN HOME. NO MONEY REQUIRED

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NEW SOUVENIR CATALOGUE

A work of art illustrated in 16 colors. Worth its weight in Gold. We pay charges on it and send it FREE, all you have to do is to ask for it to-day. Remember this is the old reliable house of CORNISH & CO., the only firm in the world selling exclusively from Factory to Family direct. A single instrument sold on these terms. We refer to any Bank or Business House in Washington, N. J. Write at once to

Mention Paper CORNISH & CO. Sixth Street, Washington, N. J.

KAFFIR CORN

The Wonderful Forage and Fodder Plant.

Enormous Yields Even in Dry Seasons. No Plant Can Equal It For Quantity and Quality of Forage and Grain on Thin Lands.

OUR OFFERS:

FOR $1.35 We will send 3½ pounds of Kaffir Corn (enough for one acre), postpaid to any address in the United States, and the WEEKLY BLADE for one whole year.

FOR $1.10 We will send the TOLEDO WEEKLY BLADE one year and 2 pounds of Kaffir Corn, postpaid.

SPECIAL NOTICE.

Many who have recently renewed their subscription to the WEEKLY BLADE, will desire to order trial packages of the corn. We suggest that they remit $1.35 for 3 1-2 pounds, or $1.10 for 2 pounds, and we will extend their subscriptions ahead another full year. Or, we will accept from subscribers whose time does not expire for some months, and who do not feel like renewing so far in advance, $1.00 for 3 1-2 pounds, or 75 cents for 2 pounds of the corn alone.

Read the Description of Kaffir Corn:

This is the greatest of all forage and fodder plants for all sections of the country. The plant is low, stocky, perfectly erect, the foliage is very heavy, alternating closely on either side of the stalk.

It does not stool from the root, but branches from the top joints, producing from two to four heads of grain from each stalk.

The average height of growth on good strong land, 5½ to 6 feet; on thin land, 4½ to 5 feet. The stalk is stout, never blown about by winds, never lodged and is always manageable, easily handled. A boy can gather the grain heads.

It has the quality of resisting drought. If the growth is checked for want of moisture the plant waits for rain, and then at once resumes the processes, and in the most disastrous seasons has not failed so far to make its crop. On very thin and worn lands it yields good paying crops of grain and forage even in dry seasons in which Corn has utterly failed on the same lands.

The whole stalk, as well as the blades, cures into excellent fodder, and in all stages of its growth is available for a green feed; cattle, mules and horses being equally fond of it, and its quality is not surpassed by any other known variety. If cut down at the ground, two or more shoots spring from the root, and the growth is thus maintained until checked by frost.

Kaffir Corn may be planted in the early spring. It bears earlier planting than most fodder plants. It should be put in rows not over three feet apart, even on the best land. Should be massed in the drill on good land, for either green or forage purposes, and also on thin land if forage mainly is

For The Blade.

NATURE'S THANKSGIVING.

One day I went where the grass grew bright,
Where the deep, blue sky gave a softened light
On the quiet brook, through the treetops green,
And below the clear water bright pebbles were seen.
The moss-covered banks offered cushions of rest,
And the beauty of Nature seemed all at its best.
The quiet of midday was over the place,
And, all unaware of the eloquent grace
That it lent to the scene in its shadowy nook,
Unrolling its delicate, feathery book—
A book plainly written, yet oftenest unseen,
Grew a fern, and the lessons it taught, I ween,
Are a part of the love that in Nature's great heart
Awaits recognition to blessings impart.

A breeze stole gently over the spot,
The rustle of leaves I heard, and thought
"'Tis Nature giving her praise to her God,"
And on the highest tip of a maple,
Riding a branch in the breeze,
Singing as loud as he's able,
Trilling his notes with such ease,
Now casting his glance to the branches below,
Where the cause of his happiness rests, I know
The soul of the robin with gladness seems filled,
And he pours out his song, and all nature seems thrilled
With a throbbing of wordless thanksgiving.

The voice of the water, the voice of the sod,
Their praises in beauty sent up to their God.
I felt the calm of that peaceful place,
I saw the fern with its feathery grace,
I heard the robin's song of joy,
I felt myself again a boy,
And the feelings that over me used to roll
I felt them again, and my heart was full
Of a silent, wordless thanksgiving.

WHAT IS SUCCESS?

THE WORLD GIVES A READY ANSWER TO THE QUESTION.

What is the Truth in the Matter?—What Makes a Really Successful Life.

A successful life!

We hear so much about it—we use the term so frequently, but we do not stop to question what really makes a successful life.

What does it comprehend?

A large majority of people would say that the man who is making money is successful, and the greater the amount he is piling up the greater his success. If he wins fame, if his name is upon men's lips, that, too, is counted as an evidence of his superiority over his fellows. To win money or glory is to be credited with a larger degree of brain power than those who fail in the race for these things.

They are the successful people in the world's estimation.

Considering the two prizes, wealth is the one which is counted the most desirable by the greatest number. Wealth gives power. Wealth permits travel, a fine house, elegant furniture, carriages and horses. All of the luxuries of life it insures, but it does not make certain health or happiness. These are not the product of either riches or poverty. Yet money makes possible what are looked upon as enjoyments., the absence of which brings restlessness and discontent. And this, in these days when one man has his millions while another has nothing, is increasing, until the finding of a remedy is one of the vital questions which insistently demand an answer.

Fame comes next, and to a minority is far dearer than an excess of dollars. To have admiring crowds toss "ready caps in air," is to have lived a successful life. It is to have won what is worth years of striving of weary, unceasing effort. Into such a life, the world can not see enter any thought of failure.

Back of all these material possessions, however, back of all of these outward results, lies the true answer to the question of what makes success, and whether it has been won with the wealth or the fame which people prize so highly.

Does wealth give happiness? We all know it does not. It affords means for the gratification of the senses which are always clamoring to be satisfied. It brings beauty to the eye; harmony to the ear; flavor to the taste; fragrance to the nostrils; softness to the touch, but to the inner self, to the soul it mostly brings nothing. It is said that it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter into the kingdom of heaven. This is not because wealth of itself is an evil, for it may be made of the greatest good to its possessor. It is possible for it to be so used as to give him a spiritual growth almost beyond measure, but too often there is no sense of the responsibility which it brings; no thought that with every dollar of increase came a greater duty to his fellows because his power is greater.

The same is true of fame. When a name is gained that caries with it a wide influence, then the responsibility for the way in which that influence is exerted is increased. It cannot be otherwise. Honor, truth, integrity, all that goes to make up a clean life, when made synonomous with a name have a greater power over the multitude than when looked at abstractly.

In reality a successful life should mean none of these things exclusively. They are pleasant to have, and looked at as means to do greater good to humanity are worth striving for, but in themselves and considered only in the plight of self-gratification, they deaden the moral sensibilities, and check the evolution of the soul upward.

Our way of looking at the matter is all wrong. Emerson says that "every man takes care that his neighbor does not cheat him. But a day comes when he begins to take care that he does not cheat his neighbor. He has changed his market cart into a chariot of the sun."

Here is the truth in a nutshell. So strong has grown the habit of identifying success with the getting of money, that not to get it means defeat and failure. Into its pursuit has come a suspicion that all men are robbers and cheats, so that the attitude of everybody is one of watchfulness that he be not cheated by his neighbors. But when the day comes—as come it will, for a higher sense of the meaning of true brotherhood is awakening—that he takes the greater care not to cheat his neighbors, then "a successful life" will be judged from a higher standpoint than it is to-day.

Success in its best sense does not lie in either the gaining of much money or of fame. The reasons for a failure to obtain either the one or the other may lie farther back than any lack of mental gifts or energetic effort upon the part of the one who fails. I have seen many a man who was shrewd, industrious, honorable, and yet every plan seemed to go awry. At some critical moment without any volition of his own, some complication would arise which swept away the edifice that was builded with such care, and the unknowing world believed it some present lack of effort or judgment. In reality it is neither, and judged from the standpoint of character, his may be a successful life for if he has won self-mastery he has gained what will be of value through all the eternities.

Self-mastery means so much! It is attained by so few!

"The bravest trophy ever man obtained
Is that which o'er himself hath gained."

If self-control has come to be a possession of man or woman—for what is true of one is true of the other in this respect—life is a success even if money and fame are both lacking. The two latter, pleasant as they are and potent for good as they may be made are only transitory, but the former is a part of the character which endures. "A self-controlled mind is a free mind, and freedom is power." Not necessarily power over dollars and cents, though he who is self-mastered is far better equipped for the race after material possessions than the individual who is a slave to his passions and ruled by his chance surroundings. "He cannot lead who is led."

And so I would call a successful life that one in which the greatest strides have been made in overcoming—overcoming the difficulties which arise in the pathway; overcoming that one of the two natures which we all possess that is ever pulling downward determined to make the better self its servant; that life which has been lived honestly, courageously, temperately, serenely; that life which has had for its aim the helping of humanity. It does not matter whether one who has lived like this, doing what was brought to his hand to do with all his might, dies out of the physical world worth one dollar or a million, he has won the truest success which it is possible to win in this world.

Then comes another question: Does success always bring happiness? And here again all depends upon what is meant by the word success. Tolstoi, I think it is, who tells the story of the wood chopper whose voice rang out merrily as he worked in the biting cold.

"You act as if you are really happy," said a well-clad passer by.

"Why should I not be happy?" he answered, pausing to reply. "I have all that I need to-day, and who can tell whether I shall be alive to-morrow," and he resumed his work and his singing.

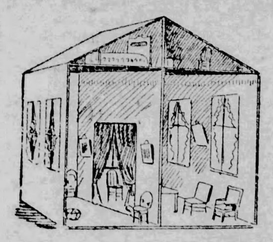
In this little story is the answer to the question, for happiness lies in the attitude of the mind toward outward circumstances. And so the man whom the world counts most successful, may, in his own heart, feel that his life is a dreary failure, as in truth it has been if he has labored only to carry out selfish purposes.

EMILY S. BOUTON.

FOR THE JUVENILES.

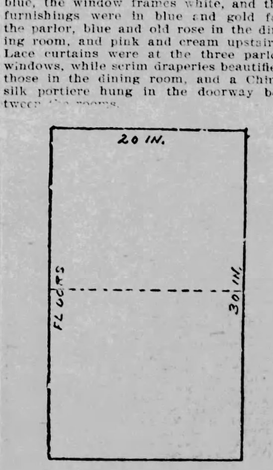
The Fancy Work Editor Takes a Lesson From a Master Mechanic.

A long time has passed since the children of the Blade Household have had any attention paid them by this department, and the editor has decided that to make up for this neglect, she will give them the whole column this week, devoting it to a description of a doll's house she saw the other day that should delight the heart of every mother's daughter of them, yes, and every mother's son too, since it will afford such a golden opportunity for using the box of tools given him last Christmas.



It will be seen by the illustration, this domicile contains four rooms; a parlor and dining room on the first floor, and a bed room and dressing room 'up attic.' It is best made of thin wood, but a light-weight packing box may be utilized, or it may even be made of heavy card board.

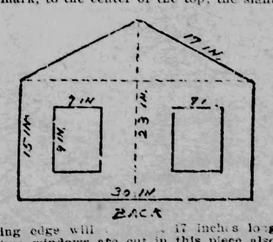
The one I saw was very neatly put together of thin boards; was painted olive-green with dark red roof, and the joints were covered with narrow gilt moulding. The inside of the house was painted pale blue, the window frames white, and the furnishings were in blue and gold for the parlor, blue and old rose in the dining room, and pink and cream upstairs. Lace curtains were at the three parlor windows, while scrim draperies beautified those in the dining room, and a China silk portiere hung in the doorway between the rooms.



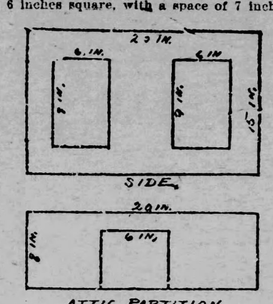
The directions for building this house, as given by the master mechanic, (aged 14), were as follows:

For the ground and second floors, take two boards 30 inches long and 20 inches wide; make them very true and smooth, and draw a dividing line cross-wise through the center of each. For the sides of the house, take two boards 20 inches long, by 15 inches wide, and cut two openings in each one, measuring six inches wide, by nine inches high.

For the end, or back of the house, take a board 30 inches wide and 23 inches high; at each side measure off 15 inches and cut the board at a slant from this mark, to the center of the top; the slanting edge will [illegible] 17 inches long. two windows are cut in this piece also, measuring 7 inches wide by 9 inches high, and a line is drawn through the center, and across from one 15 inch mark to the other, as a guide in fitting in the partitions, which are made in this way:



For the center wall downstairs, take a piece of board 20 inches long and 15 inches high; leaving a space of 5½ inches at each side, cut out a door-way 9-inches wide and 10½ inches high. For the attic partition, take a board 20 inches long and 8 inches high, making the door-way 6 inches square, with a space of 7 inches at each side. The roof consists of two pieces 17x20 inches.



Fit these sections together, put sash and frames in the windows, either of plain or gilt moulding, and finish the door frames in the same way. Putty up the nail holes and paint, paper or decorate in any way you please.

[illegible] may be bought or manufactured at home, and the furnishings may of course be as simple or as elaborate as one sees fit to have them, but the directions for the house hold good in any case.

Some very practical questions have been asked in the Cozy Corner letters this week. Questions that indicate beyond a doubt that the women who wrote them are not entirely given over to fashion and frivolity. And they are subjects that are of interest to every mother and father in the land, and we hope to hear the opinions of others. Not only the parents, but the daughters, will be interested in the following from A Western Mother:

Dear Cozy Corner Friends:—Something has happened in our little town that has caused much comment and discussion, and I would like the opinion of such of your members as are personally interested in the subject. Of course, those who have no daughters, can give very excellent theoretical replies to the question, but I would like to hear from each mother, what she would think if her daughter was concerned.

The "something" was this: A young girl, just eighteen years of age, was married to a man who bore a very bad reputation; one who had no means of supporting a family, and who was known to drink to excess very frequently, though he was not, as yet, a confirmed drunkard. Her parents said and did everything possible to persuade her to give him up, and at last, absolutely forbade him the house, and the devoted and loving mother accompanied her daughter everywhere she wished to go, in order to prevent her from meeting the young man. Now, do not understand that these parents were harsh or unkind toward their daughter, they were everything that was kind and good to her, denying her only this one thing. This went on for several weeks, and the day after the girl was eighteen years old (which is the legal majority for girls in this state) she left her home, telling her parents they no longer had a right to control her, and left the city with the man she loved, or thought she loved. Her father followed them to a neighboring city, and saw to it that they were really married, as the only thing left for him to do for his misguided and headstrong child, and then returned to the heart-broken mother.

Now my question is, where should a parent's authority cease in such a case, when they know beyond all doubt that their child is bound to do that which will be the ruin of her earthly happiness, and perhaps of her future salvation? By this act of hers she may be led into sin, why should they not have the legal right to control and prevent her from such ruin? When she was a child, they had the right to keep her from that which would hurt her, physically, even though she might desire the pleasure ever so much, but when she is a little older they must allow her those things that will hurt her spiritually and morally. It seems horribly unjust to me, what do you think?

Nellie M., is quite indignant that people should consider her time as of no account, and ask for so much of it.

I know it is an old story, but I feel that I must protest against the way some people appropriate the time of others. For instance, I am a very busy woman. I am obliged to be, in order to keep my children from wanting even the necessaries of life, and, unfortunately for me, I cannot work and talk at the same time. People will come to the door with things to sell—anything from a book to a cake of soap—and in spite of my statement that I do not wish to purchase of them, or give them an order on my grocer, and that I am very busy, they will insist upon talking and exhibiting their wares, and generally they will step unbidden into the house, thus forcing me to lose the time in listening to them. Others will drop in for a friendly call, and stay and stay, even though they see my neglected work lying by me and sometimes they will even say: "I know you are just as busy as you can be, and I can't sit but a moment," and their moment lengthens to an hour. Another hindrance is to have a person make an engagement to go out with me and then keep me waiting for them. Of course I cannot work when I am dressed to go out, and so I have to lose that half hour, or hour, because my friend thought it would not matter if she did not come when she promised.

The crowning liberty is, I think, the circular letters that I receive, asking me to give 10 cents for some object and to copy the letter sent me and send to ten other persons asking them to do the same and to send all of the dimes to some person who is an utter stranger to me. I have just received one from a party in New Jersey asking me to do this to help build a church in California. The idea! It seems to me that any one who could ask a stranger to give, not only the 10 cents, but the time required to copy the letter three, four or more times, and ask her friends to take the same trouble, that such a person should be arrested as a common nuisance, and if the New Jersey woman who sent me this latest letter of mine reads the Blade, I hope she will think better of her project and give up her endeavor to build a church at the expense of other people's time and money.

Into each life some rain must fall, Nellie, and here is one signing herself Mehitabel, whose trouble lies in another direction. She asks if this clipping that she sends, does not perfectly describe what a housekeeper, who is her own cook, must be:

"As a woman what cooking means. It means the patience of Job and the persistence of the Pilgrim Fathers. It mea s the endurance, the long-suffering and the martyrdom of Joan of Arc. It means the steaming, and the stewing, and the baking, and the broiling, thrice daily, springs, summers, autumns, and winters, year after year, decade following decade. It means perspiration and desperation and resignation. From her judgment the cook must evolve triumphs that depend upon salt and pepper and sugar and herbs. She must know how soon and how long and how often. She must know quality and quantity and cost. She must serve the butcher and the baker and the candlestick maker. Then she must rise above it all and be a lady—a loaf-giver."

Maggie, tells Marion Allen her methods of teaching the little ones at home and gives some hints that can be used by any mother to advantage:

My friend, begin the education of a child as soon as it is born. To be sure you cannot teach it to read at first, but there are so many things they should know besides obedience that there is much a child should be taught until four or five years old. I find that the best way to teach them "schooling" at home is to have books that a child can comprehend, say a first reader, and have mamma read the stories and then question the babies about what was read, then point out the words in the sentence, then the letters. Of course this is only and can do in the home. Probably a critical teacher would scoff at it. I also provide a good blackboard and teach by it.

Mrs. A. F. G. touches my tenderest spot in telling of her efforts to control herself. I, too, have just such thoughts and resolves, for ill health has long since been my bane and my three dear little boys require careful training to make them what I want them. So you see I have much to occupy my time. As to the question I have had many such experiences. I do not think it would be unwise to tell your child on second thought that you concluded to allow them to do as they first requested, but I would not do so while they were teasing, but after they have made up their mind they could not have the pleasure, then you could tell them you had thought it over and thought you were justified in changing your opinion. I have done so many times, and I may say I never have trouble over it, for if I think best for them not to have the coveted pleasure they give it up without parley.

Mrs. William Knower is evidently very much in love with her home and surroundings or she would not write so enthusiastically as she does:

Dear Hostess:—In a recent number of your valuable paper I notice a letter from Andrew's Bay. Now the readers of that letter must not think that all of the "Garden of Eden" is in that place, for I think a little of it is here. Climate good and healthful, good water, timber, game, fish, etc. Land from 75c to $15 per acre, can grow almost everything needed. Even to the coffee you drink. I am growing that and so are others. It is the German coffee berry. It can be grown in any state as well as here. I have this day sent some to Iowa to grow, so you see it can be raised in the North, too. There is an upland rice that can be grown here. Corn, wheat, oats, rye and all kinds of fruit and vegetables. Poultry and stock do well here. Good tame grasses, good society, schools and churches. Come and settle here.

It would seem from these two letters this one from Tennessee, and the one recently given from Florida, that the South was a most desirable location for families in search of homes and health, but there was a serpent in the original Eden, and we would like to know the other side of Southern life, for we cannot expect it is all sunshine and flowers.

"I know not where His islands lift
Their fronded palms in air;
I only know I cannot drift
Beyond His love and care."

The editor of the Cozy Corner wishes to thank the friend who sent her the package of seeds, and assures her they shall have every opportunity to grow and increase, that it will be possible to give them. If there are any especial conditions of soil, or care needed to insure success, will Mrs. Knower please inform us?

A. A. W.—"Would like to obtain some information regarding the henna plant and the indigo plant, where they come from and as much as possible in regard to their habits, use, etc."

H. writes: "Will some one kindly inform me from what the name Muriel is derived and what it means?"

Alice asks for the words of a poem commencing thus. "If I Should Die To-Night."

Churchman confesses that, as he is a young churchman yet, he can never remember how to calculate the time for Easter. While this young churchman is growing to a better knowledge of churchly affairs we commend the following for his careful study:

"When March the twenty-first is past,
Just watch the silvery moon,
And when you see it full and round,
Know Easter'll be here soon.

"After the moon has reached its full,
Then Easter will be here,
The very Sunday after,
On each and every year.

"But if it han on Sunday,
The moon should reach its height,
The Sunday after this event
Will be the Easter bright."

Alpha:—You have chosen a noble work, for there is no one who can bring such comfort, help and relief to so many people as a thoroughly good nurse. And the more of refinement, sympathy and good breeding you can carry into your work the more successful will you be. Again, you are doing just right in giving your time and assistance to your mother, even though you are thereby disappointed in being obliged to defer studying for your chosen work. Her claim is first, and the cheerfully bearing of this disappointment will help you to the self-sacrifice that is, necessarily, a part of the life of a trained nurse.

If you will write to Miss Morrison, Toledo Hospital, Toledo, O., stating what you desire I think you will find her a very sympathizing friend, and she is prime authority on all matters pertaining to nursing.

Aunt Sue sends the following answers to questions:

To cure cold, or fever, sores, as they are sometimes called, dip a bit of cloth in boiling water and touch the sores lightly with the cloth. If this is done as soon as the lips commence to swell it will most always effect a cure.

For cramps, apply hot, dry cloths, or hot applications of some kind, but never rub the affected part as that will make it worse.

Steady Reader, a black skirt and light silk is proper form for an evening concert. You can wear an evening hat or bonnet and your costume will be entirely appropriate.

THE COOK'S DEPARTMENT.

"Polly Put the Kettle On and We Will All Have Tea."

The old-fashioned "tea," with bread and butter, sauce of some kind, and cake, is entirely a thing of the past, and is succeeded by supper, which includes meat and "something hot," and there is such a variety of easily prepared, appetizing dishes that can be used at this latest meal of the day, that it is little wonder that most people enjoy them more even than the more pretentious dinner. For those who are partial to cheese, we give this week one or two tested recipes.

Cheese Fondu.

Cut into small bits ¼ lb. of cheese and stir it into 1 tablespoonful of melted butter, in a porcelain dish; add to this ¼ teaspoonful of mustard, a dash of cayenne pepper, 2 tablespoonfuls of fresh bread crumbs, ½ cupful of milk in which is dissolved 1 saltspoonful of soda, and last 2 well-beaten eggs. Stir over the fire till creamy, but do not let it boil. Spread on slices of toasted bread or crackers and serve hot.

Oyster Rarebit.

Cut in small pieces 1 lb. of soft cheese and melt it in 1 tablespoonful of butter, add 2-3 cupful of the strained liquor and soft parts of oysters chopped fine. Stir still creamy and serve with afternoon tea or any salt cracker.

The above dishes can be prepared with a chafing dish, and are extremely popular after an evening out, when one feels the need of some refreshment before retiring.

A friend who read our potato recipes, sends us some more, saying that she had found them so good that she wished to "share them with all the world," which means, the Blade readers:

Potato Soup.

Pare 3 good-sized potatoes and let them stand for ½ hour in cold water, then boil in salted water till soft. Mash them and add to them 1 teaspoonful chopped onion, and 1 stalk of celery, boiled in 3 cupfuls of milk, salt and pepper to taste. Rub this through a strainer. Melt ½ tablespoonful of butter in a sauce pan, mix smooth with 1 tablespoonful of flour; stir this into the boiling soup and let it boil 5 minutes, strain again and serve very hot. Skimmed sweet milk will answer to use, though new milk makes a richer soup.

Potatoes and Peas.

Into a buttered baking dish, put a layer of nicely seasoned mashed potatoes, spread with melted butter; then a layer of canned green peas, cover with grated bread crumbs and bits of butter and over all pour a cupful of cream, or rich milk. Bake in a moderate oven 30 minutes, and then serve immediately.

THE MERRY-GO-ROUNDS.

Have a Small, but Enthusiastic Meeting.

The subject for general discussion during the month of March is given by Miss Laura Gibson, of Delphi, president of the Order of Blade M. G. R.'s in Indiana. "Who do you consider to be the greatest American (living or dead) and why?"

Only one new member knocked for admittance at the door of the M. G. R. this morning, and as he had come all the way from Oregon to speak his mind to New England Girl he was given an early opportunity to do so, that young woman being on hand (as usual).

The young man introduced himself as Scarlet Wing, and this is what he had to say: "I have been tempted to join the M. G. R.'s for a long time, and seeing New England Girl's definition of old bachelors I can withstand the pressure no longer. New England Girl, come west and capture one of those wild creatures; bashful they may be, but there are a number here who are neither stingy, ugly nor old. The scenery is as fine as any in the world, the climate delightful; we have had New England spring weather all winter, and almost every variety of fruit, fish or game to satisfy the inner man."

Kicker, Tenn., came in, bearing (as per Miss Prudence's recent suggestion) the olive branch, he said: "As I am not acquainted by reputation or otherwise with the lady whose character is under discussion (Cordelia), I will say nothing about her, but suggest the following as candidates for attention in future months. 'What do you think of the possibility, date and desirability of the 'Horseless Age?' 'What do you think of the possibilities of electricity?' 'Will the next century show more improvements materially as well as spiritually than the last, and what do you think some of them will be?'"

Hereupon Kicker retired gracefully, receiving the assurance from the Chaperone that the "olive branch" was accepted and that he would be a welcome visitor whenever he chose to "run in."

C. L. Kirby, Tenn., came in with a Bible question for the M. G. R.s. He said: "The last time I visited the circle I was given a warm reception in the waste basket, but by permission of the Chaperone I wish to ask who was the youngest Jewish king when crowned, and what was his age as recorded in the Bible?

"I am in sympathy with the Venezuelan rebels, though if the United States wants to fight I think it would look more as if we were a people having some religion. If we were to add the missionaries in Turkey. If any one wants war, let them fight intemperance and the many other evils at present existing in our land."

New England Girl, Mass., having entertained the young man from Oregon until his departure, had a word to say to another member and said it thusly: "Hazel Thornton, I am surprised at you! I do believe you were looking forward to leap year, and proposed on New Year's Day, being aware, perhaps, of the fact that there is not another such year for some time to come!

"I was sorry to hear that Mr. Wright had resigned, as I felt almost acquainted with him; I used to live near his home, and have relatives living in his town at the present time."

Trailing Arbutus, Ill., had also a word for Hazel Thornton. "I for one will just step in and congratulate Hazel Thornton on her good fortune, and hope her choice will prove better than some that have been discussed in The Blade. I wish to thank Pauline for the stamp album; what little elf could have told her that I wanted one? And to the friend who gave me the shopping-bag I would say, that I have one, but it is almost worn out."

"Isabel, Ind. (formerly of Illinois), came in for a moment to tell the M. G. R.'s that she had 'turned Hoosier.' 'I wish to thank those who remembered me so kindly at Christmas, and to tell you that I have 'turned Hoosier,' and invite each and all (except Dr.) to call upon me in my new home."

Morning Glory, O.:—"Thanks, Clodhopper, for agreeing with me; I am always pleased to have people do that. I was also glad to hear that Hawkeye does not abhor old maids; it is quite a relief to hear a good word for that much-abused class, which I expect to join shortly, if fortune does not smile upon me and give me a good husband. A good husband is the best earthly blessing bestowed upon women, but a poor one is a nuisance. I have lots to write about, but space will not permit it."

Villia Knox, Tenn.:—"Here I come thanking Miss Prudence for admitting me to your happy circle. It is getting to be very interesting, and like our Chaperone, I do not think any of the members would be found with unbuttoned shoes, torn dress, or disarranged hair. The boys seem to have too poor an opinion of us girls; let us be neat and attractive every day as well as well as Sunday, and prove them in the wrong."

Addie, Ind.:—"I, too, felt like repeating what Stranded Hulk says in regard to coming in out of the cold. March is verifying itself by coming in like a Lion, but we can look forward to a calm ending of the month. I have just been reading Lapsus Calimi's description of this Rendezvous, and also have before me his picture and sketch of himself, and think he certainly needs all the accomplishments to be able to care for himself in his mountain home. He does not say whether he is a cook or not, so girls, he may yet have to call on one of us old maids to get him a good square meal; he ought to let us furnish him with a bill of fare at any rate.

"With regard to my home, I live in a city which derives its name from an island which is situated almost in the heart of the town. It is shaped like an Elk's heart, and one of the rivers, dear old St. Jo,' almost surrounds it, meeting the other, smaller river right at the point from which meeting place they flow peacefully on toward the West. Our city is noted for its number of bridges and manufactories.

"I may shock some of the girls by owning that I am a 'factory girl' myself, but let me add that I am trying to live as closely to the Elder Brother as I know how, and in this city they dare not slight the factory girls since they have proved to be the best, most faithful workers in the kingdom of Christ, and are as truly 'ladies' on the average, as those who have any other occupation. Most of the working people here own their homes and the brave factory 'girl' does as much as the 'boy' toward securing a home, not only for themselves, but for father and mother in their old age. I am president of local chapter Epworth League here, and am proud to say that I am a King's Daughter; are any of the other M. G. Rs. members of that Order?

"Now, dear Miss Prudence, don't wonder any more, for there were about forty others besides 'wo two' at the watch party; and you must not insinuate such things, or I may blush, and be afraid to speak again, and really, we are only friends, and I hope he did not recognize me by my nom. I am afraid of the waste basket, but I find it hard to stop writing.

"Disreputable, I agree with your sentiments; don't shrink from the vilest about you, if you can lead them away from sin, for this is the grandest of missions. 'Lost souls for the Master to win.' He once wrote on the sand 'He that hath no sin, let him cast the first stone;' so let us turn the search light on ourselves."

Miss Prudence is very much obliged to Addie for relieving her mind concerning the "watch meeting." It is a comfort, too, to know that "he" is only a friend. There is nothing on earth much better than a good "friend," and the Chaperone advises Addie to retain him as such as long as possible. Since Hazel Thornton's "episode," Miss Prudence naturally feels suspicious of these seemingly harmless acquaintances.

With much regret the Chaperone announces the resignation of Miss Nora W. Sydon, the Oregon president, who has been very efficient and faithful during her short term of office. With the resignation came the following pleasant letter:

"Dear Miss Prudence, I hope you will not think it too bad if I write to resign my office as state president. I am by profession a 'school-ma'am,' and as my mission is to instruct the young idea, I am afraid I can serve no longer. My school is twelve miles away from my postoffice, and I shall be gone for about five months.

"My school is in what is called the Chaparral district, because it is surrounded by chapparal, which is the ugliest shrub that grows. It is a dull, greenish-gray color, the gray predominating, and when one sees a large tract of it, you can not imagine a more dreary sight. However the lovely surroundings (excepting the chaparral) will fully compensate, for I think no state has more beautiful scenery than ours."

All communications for this department should be addressed to The Blade, Toledo, O., "M. G. R."

Grace Oakes:—If you will forward a stamped self-addressed envelope to Miss Prudence, she will gladly give you all the information you desire.

SNOWDROPS.

There was a fierce monster, who made
His home in vale, woodland and glade.
He laughed in his terrible might,
And chilled every heart with affright
As he scattered the powdery snow—
Ho! ho!

Three poor little maids lost their way,
As homeward they wandered one day.
How lovely they were! and how sweet!
This monster said, "These I will eat,
But I'll wait until darkness sets in;
To begin."

The little maids heard him, and wept;
Then closer together they crept.
And each kissed the other's pale cheek.
O! who could harm darlings so meek?
Close under a snow-bank they tried
To hide.

The sun went down, lurid and cold;
A shroud of snow round them was rolled;
They heard the grim monster go by,
These three little maids to espy;
But, blinded with anger, no three
Found he!

Now the morning sun warmed them, and lo!
They peeped from their shelter of snow!
These darlings were snowdrops; and he
Who bowed to his will every tree—
Pine, maple, and locust and larch—
Was March!

—George Cooper.

An Alphabet Evening.

Two or three enjoyable hours can be passed in any family or circle of friends by the simplest entertainment, that has no connection with but which possesses all the fascination of cards. It is only necessary to letter twenty-six cards and provide some meager prizes and the object is achieved. With bits of cardboard lettered from A to Z you have your fundamental principle of pleasure. Next your guests, whether they be ten or twenty-six, are given the cards according to the number present, the women on one side, the men on the other. Have the cards in a square box, from which those present select as they pass to the chairs prepared for them, keeping always the men on one side, the women on the other. Appoint an individual for referee, and he or she will ring the bell that begins and ends the various periods of the games, and will also decide any dispute that may arise in the progress of the entertainment.

With the letters chosen and sides defined, the bell rings. The idea is for the ladies first with the letters they possess to make a correct word with some letter opposite. Thus a lady bearing the letter A crosses over and allies herself with the letter Y or H, borne by some gentleman on the opposite line. As soon as a word is thus formed the inactive letter can not be used by any one else. At the end of two minutes the bell rings and the referee goes about and marks the card of the couples formed into a definite word of two letters, with a good star, while the unsuccessful commingling of letters are not thus distinguished. All letters are then put back in the box, stirred up and redistributed, and the men have their chance to form a word from the letter they pick out allied to some one in the possession of the lady opposite. Continue this as long as is desirable, the couples being given winning marks or the reverse, in accordance with the words they are able to form. If there are few participating in the games they may be given two or three letters, which must commingle with the two or three letters of some one opposite, forming a word. At the end of an hour, or whatever time the referee has set, cards are referred to, and those marked with the greatest number of words receive a prize; the booby also gets one, of course, of a less serious character. Such an entertainment is within the reach of every one, and as an original and simple affair, requiring no expensive outlay for its success, has no equal.

Heard During the Freshet.

The crane, who was wading in the water to take the rheumatism out of his legs, remarked to the river:

"I hope you are well, but your face looks swollen."

"Sure," said the river. "I have not been out of my bed in six months."

"Do not let me detain you if you were about to rise," said the crane.

"Thank you," said the river. "I am better, though not up to the mark—high water mark."

"In for a little sport, eh?" laughed the crane; "going to try to break the bank, eh?"

"Cert," said the river, "but I see you are ready for high water."

"As how?" asked the crane.

"Set up on piles," and the river chuckled.

"That's fair," said the crane, "but I shall put in a long bill for damages, all the same." And he wandered up stream, looking for another sucker.—Toronto (Can.) News.

I kissed the cook. You see, her head
Came 'twixt me and the baker's bread,
And though I don't, in spite of looks,
Kiss indiscriminately, cooks,
The cheeks of this one were so red,
Her eyes so soft a lustre shed,
Into temptation I was led,
And quicker than the lamb-tail crooks,
I kissed the cook!

I'm absent-minded since I've wed,
And so, perhaps, I haven't said,
My wife and Miss Parloa's books
Are intimate as eyes and hooks.
'Twas rising from her dainty spread
I kissed the cook!

—Detroit Tribune.

Household Hints.

Pretty individual dishes for a celery salad when tomatoes are not to be had are made from boiled beets. Cut off the ends so that the cups will not fall over, scoop out the centers, and arrange on crisp lettuce leaves. Fill the centers of the beets with the salad, with a teaspoonful of mayonnaise dressing on each one.

Great care must be exercised in washing glass ornamented with gold. Use only castile soap, and do not have the suds strong. Wash one piece at a time, and wipe immediately. The water must be lukewarm, as hot water not only is apt to crack the glass, but, in a way, melts the gilt or paint, causing it to wear very badly.

The head of fresh codfish is in European countries esteemed a delicacy. It is boiled in salted water until tender and served with a white sauce, seasoned with salt and pepper, capers, small chopped cucumber pickles, or chopped peppers that have been pickled. If the flavor of onion is liked, add to the seasoning a temperate quantity of onion juice.

A GREWSOME FOE.

Oh, flee from his pathway, all creatures of vice,
And likewise all good men and true;
For he handles a weapon more cruel than nice.
And its terrors are thirsting for you.
His wounds are not mortal. He challenges not
To combats that reddens with blood,
But the blushes he raises are never forgot;
The man with the handful of mud.

And he hurls it on high, and he watches it spread,
And his laugh echoes fearful and loud.
He cares not, though some may alight on his head,
If it only bespatters the crowd.
The whiter the object, the deeper the stain,
When abuse covers all in its flood;
But his joys are his own, and he laughs at their pain
The man with a handful of mud.

—Washington Star.

A Vegetable Salamander.

The Gardeners' Chronicle gives some details concerning a tree of Colombia which truly merits the name vegetable salamander. This tree, the Phopala odorata, of the order Proteaceae, presents a remarkable power of resistance to fire. In the district of Rolima it is customary every year during the dry season to set fire to the plains in order to destroy all the dry weeds that, during rains, might interfere with the growth of the young and tender vegetation. This periodical conflagration naturally produces the most disastrous effects upon the trees, which gradually disappear without being replaced, since it is difficult for an old tree to resist, and still more so for a young shoot of one or two years. A single tree forms an exception, and that is the one above mentioned—the phonala. Small, distorted and scraggy and having a wild and desolate appearance, this tree not only does not suffer from the fire, but derives profit therefrom. It gradually establishes itself in localities abandoned by other trees and installs itself therein. We have here a very typical case of the survival of the fittest. It, alone capable of resisting fire, witnesses the disappearance of its rivals, and is seen to gradually encroach upon an always more extended domain. Its resistance to fire is due to its bark. The external portion of the latter, more than half an inch thick and formed of dead cells and fibers, acts like a protecting jacket with respect to the more central and living parts, and it is this that assures its triumph in its struggle for existence against fire.

Notes About Sara Bernhardt.

Sara Bernhardt, when asked to tell the secret of her perpetual youth, said: "I am young because I work. I must work. I am never idle. If I had stayed quietly in Paris, as the Parisians wanted me to do some years ago, I should look at least fifty. Possibly I might be dead. I love travel, change of scene, incessant occupation, and the result is—I am young."

Her youth is not wholly due to change of work, but to her amiability. She is kind and considerate and encouraging to the humblest in her profession.

Sara Bernhardt is the grandmother of two little girls, the oldest about 6 years of age.

Sara Bernhardt was named Rosine. Nor is her last name properly Bernhardt, since she was married in 1882 to and divorced from, soon afterward, M. Damala, who died in 1889.

Even in Death.

That is a pretty bit of symbolism reported by a recent visitor to the grave of George Eliot, at Highgate. It is only fifteen years since the famous writer died, but her grave is already showing signs of neglect. "There is only one living emblem to be seen, and that is a spray of ivy which has crept from the tomb of George Henry Lewes to cling round the base of the column erected to the memory of the woman he loved."

TWO OF THEM.

Two little girls,
Are better than one;
Two little boys
Can double the fun;
Two little birds
Can build a fine nest;
Two little arms
Can love Mamma best.
Two little shoulders,
Chubby and strong;
Two little feet,
Running all day long.
Two little prayers
Does my darling say;
Twice does she kneel
At my side each day.
Two little folded hands,
Soft and brown;
Two little eyelids
Open meekly down.
And two little angels,
Guard her in bed,
One at the foot
And one at the head.

—Woman's Tribune.

THE SCHOOL BELL'S STORY OF THE WAR.

(Concluded.)

"Captain Harvey had left school before Miss Ruth and I came from Boston, but his four boys were among our brightest scholars. The captain had gone away in the —th, and had passed through so many battles unharmed, that the boys had begun to think that no harm could come to their brave, handsome father.

"But one morning, as Earl was standing at the blackboard, explaining a problem in algebra, Mr. John Graham came in. He stood by the stove a few minutes without saying a word, looking so pale and sad that we knew he had bad news for some one. At last he said that Mrs. Harvey wanted the boys to come home. Earl stopped right down from the platform, and took hold of Mr. Graham's hand, saying over and over: "Oh, there's been another battle and my papa is killed!" While little curly-haired Bennie began to scream: "Oh, the wicked rebels have shot my beautiful, dear papa, and he's all dead, and I can't see him never any more."

"Jack and Harry, the twins, turned as white as death, and all the other children began to cry. Miss Ruth got them quiet at last, and Mr. Graham told them that there had been another terrible battle, and that Captain Harvey was shot. He fell from his horse before any of his men could catch him; all he could say was 'tell Earl to look after the little ones. Tell all the boys to comfort their mother. Tell Anna I meant to shield her always from trouble and sorrow, but our country needed me, and if it were not for her and the boys, I would willingly die for the dear old flag.'

"'Oh, we need him, too,' cried Bennie. 'We need him, too, for

News of the Week.

The Blade is a newspaper for free American citizens, and under the above head aims to give first, those events which are the history and progress of the world for the week—those which every intelligent man needs to know and should know; second, all important political events; and lastly, the leading minor occurrences that possess interest to every educated and thinking reader.

54TH CONGRESS—FIRST SESSION.

Washington, March 10.—The action of the Spanish minister in correcting or qualifying through the public press, statements made in the Senate on the subject of the war in Cuba, and particularly on the subject of Gen. Weyler's purpose and character, was to-day made the ground work of a question of personal privilege by Senator Lodge (Mass.).

The discussion was continued for over an hour and a half, and when it terminated another phase of the Cuban question presented itself in the shape of a resolution which had been offered yesterday by Mr. Hoar (Mass.) to postpone the further consideration of the conference report until the 6th of April, and to direct the committee on foreign relations to report in the meantime the facts on which the resolution was justified.

Mr. Hoar's resolution went over until to-morrow, when he is to speak upon it.

The rest of the day's session was given to the Delaware election case—Mr. Turpie (Ind.) continuing, but not finishing his speech against Mr. Dupont's right to the seat.

The annual fight in the House of Representatives against the appropriation of $180,000 for "special and necessary facilities over the trunk lines between Boston and New Orleans," carried in the bill for the past 17 years, engaged the attention of the House to-day, in the course of the consideration of the postoffice appropriation bill. It was precipitated by Mr. Loud (Rep., Cal.) in charge of the bill, making a point of order that it was an appropriation for a purpose not authorized by existing laws. After some debate the point of order was over-ruled by the chair (Mr. Payne, Rep., N. Y.), who followed several precedents in rulings to that effect, going back as far as the Forty-fourth Congress. Later Mr. Loud moved to strike out the item, but this was defeated on a vote by tellers, 93 to 114. Previously, on a division, the vote was ayes 110, noes 95, so the item remains in the bill. Paragraphs providing appropriations for special facilities between Kansas City and Newton, Kas., and between Chicago and Omaha were stricken out on points of order.

Only two or three miscellaneous matters were disposed of in the session—bills for the relief of individuals.

Washington, March 11.—Senator Hoar's resolution to postpone the conference report on the Cuban concurrent resolutions till Monday, April 6, was taken up early in the morning hour to-day, and after a speech by Mr. Hoar in support of it, lost his place in the morning hour, and went to the calendar, from which there will probably be no effort to resurrect it. But the debate in the Senate will go on all the same until the subject is disposed of, as the conference report is a privileged question, at least until 2 o'clock every day, when it comes into conflict with the resolution for seating Mr. Dupont as Senator from the state of Delaware— a question of still higher privilege.

Mr. Turpie, Indiana, concluded his three-days speech against the claim of Mr. Dupont to a seat in the Senate from the state of Delaware.

The postoffice appropriation bill was finally disposed of in the House and sent to the Senate.

The session was chiefly devoted to a consideration of the "spy" system in the postoffice department, as espionage upon letter carriers in the past two years has been called, and it was very vigorously attacked by several members. An amendment was inserted to cut out the item of increase for this purpose.

Washington, March 12.—The conference report on the Cuban belligerency resolution was again up in the Senate to-day and two speeches were made upon it. The first was by Mr. Hill, (N. Y.,) announcing his purpose of voting against the conference report. His opposition was to the third clause, which proclaims the purpose of the United States to be prepared to intervene in order to protect the legitimate interests of the United States. He opposed that resolution as being liable to misinterpretation, as being unnecessary, and therefore unwise. The action of the committee on foreign relations and of the Senate conferees was defended by Mr. Sherman (Ohio) and then the matter went over until to-morrow.

After a speech by Mr. Pritchard (N. C.,) in support of Mr. Dupont's claim to a seat in the Senate, from the state of Delaware, a number of bills were taken from the calendar and passed.

The House spent all of its time in considering contested election cases. One of them that of H. Dudley Coleman was that of P. Bock, from the Second Louisiana district, was disposed of without debate, by the adoption of the resolutions unanimously reported by the elections committee No. 2, that Coleman (Rep.) was not elected, and that Buck (Dem.) had been, and was entitled to his seat. Debate upon the other—William F. Aldrich vs. Gaston A. Robbins, from the Fourth Alabama district—was begun and continued for several hours. There were three reports, two by the Republican majority, agreeing that Aldrich was elected and should be seated, but differing as to the size of his majority. The minority admit that the majority of 3,736 returned for Robinson should be reduced to 559—still amply sufficient to warrant their recommendation that he retain his seat.

Washington, March 13.—An allusion had been made in Mr. Sherman's speech on Thursday to a private communication which Mr. Lodge, of Massachusetts, was supposed to have received from the secretary of state, and to have made known, confidentially, to the committee on foreign relations. Mr. Lodge said Mr. Sherman had fallen into an unintentional error; that he had had no interview with Mr. Olney, and had received no private communication from him, and that the paper which had been sent from the state department and had been read to the committee on foreign relations by one of its members, was the statement of the Spanish minister, giving the Spanish version of affairs in Cuba. Mr. Sherman admitted the mistake he had fallen into, and to a suggestion that he should communicate the paper to the Senate, he replied that it was a matter only to be read in executive session.

The financial condition of the government was pressed in a four-hour speech by Mr. Cockerell, of Missouri. Adjourned till Monday.

The Republican strength in the House of Representatives was increased by one this afternoon when, by a vote of 173 to 50, Gaston A. Robbins (Dem.) was declared to be not entitled to the seat occupied by him as representative from the Fourth district of Alabama, and William F. Aldrich, his Republican opponent, was placed therein. The Republicans now number 247 members; the Democrats, 101; Populists, 7; and Silverites, 1. There is a vacancy from the Eleventh Georgia district, caused by the recent death of Representative Crain. Mr. Aldrich appeared at the bar and was sworn in by Speaker Reed amid Republican applause.

Before the election case was taken up, two bills were passed. One was to require that engineers and assistant engineers on steamers sailing under American registers shall be American citizens. The other was the tonnage tax bill, repealing the reciprocal provisions of the law of 1894, of which Germany and the Netherlands took advantage, and reducing the tax on the coastwise trade between the Americas; between the United States and the West Indies, and between the United States and Hawaii from three to two cents a ton. Adjourned till Monday.

Washington, March 16.—The Senate had an hour of spirited Cuban debate late today, after the early part of the day had been given to set speeches by Mr. Lodge on immigration and Mr. Pugh on silver. The Cuban discussion was mainly important in bringing out the full reading of a statement of the Spanish side of the case by Senor Dupuy De Lome. It claimed to detail the insurgent methods of guerilla warfare, the burning of cane fields and the disorganized character of the insurgent bands. Mr. Morgan commented severely on the minister's statement. The Senator had several sharp controversies with Mr. Hale over various phases of the Cuban question.

During the day Mr. Elkins offered a resolution directing the committee on foreign affairs to report as to the status of war in Cuba before a vote was taken in the Senate.

This was suspension day in the House and several bills were passed.

A bill was passed granting the C. B. & Q. company as lessee of the Atchison & Nebraska railway, right of way through the Sac and Fox Indian reservation.

Unanimous consent was granted at the request of Chairman Hitt of the committee on foreign affairs to take up the resolutions censuring Ambassador Bayard for his speeches at Boston, England, and at Edinburgh, on Wednesday at 1:30 p. m.

The Oklahoma homestead bill was then passed. It provides that all actual and bona fide settlers in the public lands in Oklahoma should acquire patent after five years' residence upon the payment of the customary fees without the payment of the price per acre required by existing law. The secretary of the interior reported against the bill and stated that the loss to the United States would exceed $15,000,000.

Mr. Culberson (Dem., Tex.) offered the following amendment, which was accepted: "The public land laws of the United States are hereby suspended until further legislation by Congress, in so far they may effect the territory hitherto known as Greer county, Texas."

This amendment was the outcome of the decision of the Supreme court to-day that Greer county, Texas, belonged to the public domain, and therefore to Oklahoma and not to Texas, and its decision was to prevent squatters from rushing into that country and entering lands under regular land laws to the injury of bonafide residents who had purchased their lands on the supposition that they belonged to the state of Texas, until Congress should have an opportunity to consider legislation to meet the unexpected condition resulting from this decision. The bill was passed without division.

A bill prescribing punishment for multilating coins and for altering or passing mutilated or lightered coins was passed.

A very rich ore strike is reported seven miles up Summit Canyon, near Santaquin, Utah.

OHIO REPUBLICANS.

A Strong Endorsement of McKinley's Candidacy.

Columbus, O., March 11.—The Republican state convention met yesterday afternoon for organization, with Senator Foraker for chairman. His speech was devoted entirely to a ringing indorsement of McKinley's Presidential candidacy. To-day the following nominations were made:

For national delegates at large—Governor Asa S. Bushnell, chairman; Senator Joseph B. Foraker, Marcus A. Hanna, Cleveland; Congressman Charles H. Grosvenor, Athens county. Alternates at large to national convention—Surgeon General Joseph E. Lowes, Montgomery county; Senator Charles Fleischman, Cincinnati; Senator John R. Green, Cleveland; John N. Taylor, East Liverpool. Presidential electors at large—Isaac F. Mack, Sandusky; Albert Douglass, Jr., Ross county.

The state ticket is as follows: Secretary of State—Charles Kinney, Scioto county. Judge of the Supreme Court—Marshall J. Williams, Fayette county. Dairy and Food Commissioner—Joseph E. Blackburn, Bellaire. Member of Board of Public Works—Frank Huffman, Van Wert county.

The following platform was adopted amid tremendous cheering:

The Republicans of Ohio congratulate the people of the country upon the growth of Republican sentiment, as evidenced by the signal victories of the last three years, which assure a glorious national triumph in the coming election.

We denounce the Democratic administration as the most destructive and disastrous the history of our country has ever known. It has not only disappointed the expectations of the country, but has justly forfeited the confidence and support of its own party.

We affirm our adherence to the principles of the Republican party as defined by the national convention in 1892.

We are faithfully wedded to the great principle of protection by every tie of party fealty and affection, and it is dearer to us now than ever before. It has more devoted supporters among the great masses of the American people irrespective of party, than at any previous perior in our national history. It is everywhere recognized and endorsed as the great, masterful, triumphant American principle—the key to our prosperity in business, the safest prop to the treasury of the United States, and the bulwark of our national independence and financial honor.

We denounce the present tariff law as the sublimated product of Democratic ignorance and incompetency, bringing, as it has, to a prosperous and happy people, a period of unprecedented adversity and distress from which nothing but a return to the policy of protection can relieve it.

We denounce the free wool provision of the present tariff law as an unjust discrimination against an important industry and against a large part of our people and demand such protection for sheep husbandry as will secure fair prices for American wool.

The Republican party stands for a reciprocity that reciprocates and which does not yield up to another country a single day's labor that belongs to the American working man. It stands for international agreements which get as much as they give, upon terms of mutual advantage.

It stands for a foreign policy dictated by and imbued with a spirit that is genuinely American; for a policy that will revive the national traditions and restore the national spirit which carried us proudly through the earlier years of the century. It stands for such a policy with all foreign nations as will insure both to us and to them justice, good faith, dignity and honor; it stands for the Monroe doctrine as Monroe himself proclaimed it.

It stands for a commercial policy that will whiten every sea with the sails of American vessels flying the American flag and that will protect the flag wherever it floats.

It stands for a fiscal policy opposed to debts and deficits in time of peace and favors the return of the government to a debt paying policy and opposes the continuance of the debt-making policy. In the too plain for argument that the public credit and commercial interests of the country require the revenues of the government to be amply sufficient for the proper expenditures at all times, without danger of deficit and to that end Congress should without delay make due provision.

We contend for honest money; for a currency of gold, silver and paper with which to measure our exchanges that shall be as sound as the government and as untarnished as its honor; and to that end we favor bi-metallism, and demand the use of both gold and silver as standard money, either in accordance with a ratio to be fixed by an international agreement, if that can be obtained, or under such restrictions and such provisions to be determined by legislation, as will secure the maintenance of the parities of the values of the two metals, so that the purchasing and debt-paying power of the dollar, whether of silver, gold or paper, shall be at all times equal.

We denounce the present administration of the pension bureau for its betrayal of the terests of the Union soldiers, and we pledge anew to the veterans of the republic watchful care and recognition of their just claims upon a grateful people.

The people have triumphantly elected General Bushnell to the governorship; the general assembly have emphatically endorsed the people's choice for United States Senator, Governor Foraker, and we congratulate the Republicans of Ohio that today has completed the fulfillment of all the pledges made by their last convention.

We honor the eminent sons of other states, whose splendid services, and high character have justified their presentation to the American people as candidates for the Presidency and we assure Republicans everywhere that whoever may lead the Republican hosts, Ohio will contribute her share to the swelling tide of victory in November.

The people of Ohio take satisfaction in the expressions, coming from every section of our common country, of popular approval of their distinguished fellow citizen, William McKinley. The great advocate of protection, who has all his life stood for America, its factories, its farms, its firesides, finds his reward in the confidence and affection of the people, whose interests have been his constant care. The Republicans of Ohio pledge him anew the absolute loyal and unswerving support of his state at the national convention, and instruct the delegates chosen to represent Ohio to redeem this pledge.

A NEW GOLD FIELD.

Mysterious Expedition Sets Off to Explore It.

San Francisco, March 12.—A mysterious expedition left to-day for Alaska. The steam schooner Excelsior was chartered, and so quietly was the matter carried out that the owners of the vessel, C. A. Hooper & Co., know hardly anything of the plans of the managers.

Last year some wealthy citizens of Boston heard rumors of immense gold-bearing deposits at Cook Inlet, and A. Pennock, an experienced miner, was sent up to view the country.

Pennock made a thorough search for the shining metal, and, in his opinion, he was successful beyond all question.

The Boston investigators incorporated as the Alaska & Boston Co., and $100,000 was paid in. Henry F. Spaulding and G. T. W. Braman, the latter being at the head of the West Side electrical roads, came to this city and at once began preparations for the expedition.

The destination of the expedition has been most carefully guarded, but it is known that the objective point is about twenty miles from Resurrection Creek, at the head of Cook's Inlet.

BOAT LOAD OF MINERS

Started From San Francisco for Puget Sound Ports.

San Francisco, March 16.—The steamer Umatilla sailed last night for Victoria and Puget Sound ports, carrying away at least 100 miners with outfits for the gold regions of Alaska. Many of them are going to Cook's Inlet while not a few are to brave the dangers of a north winter and attempt to cross the ice from Dyea Inlet to the Yukon.

To reach the Yukon by water it will be necessary to wait until the end of May before leaving this city and it will be some time in June when the river is sufficiently free from ice to admit of navigation.

G. A. R. ENCAMPMENT.

The Date for Holding Will Not Be Changed.

St. Paul, Minn., March 14.—The date of holding the 30th national encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic will not be changed. The original date was the first week in September and that will be adhered to. The rumor of a change of date for the encampment was started during Gen. Walker's visit to St. Paul early this week. The general did not request a change of the date but simply expressed the opinion that a later date would better accommodate one or two departments, but no change was made or proposed.

PERRINE'S COMET.

Will Never Be Seen From the Earth Again.

Princeton, N. J., March 11.—Prof. Young, chief of the astronomical department of Princeton university, said yesterday that Perrine's comet was rapidly receding from the earth, having passed off the earth's orbit, February 25. The comet described a parabola, and will never be visible to the inhabitants of the earth again.

IOWA REPUBLICANS.

Allison Their Platform and Their Candidate.

For President—William B. Allison.

Delegates at large—James S. Clarkson, D. B. Henderson, John H. Gear and W. P. Hepburn.

Alternates at large—G. M. Curtis, Clinton; H. G. McMillan, Rock Rapids; C. J. A. Ericson, Boone; Phil. Schaller, Sioux City.

Des Moines, Ia., March 12.—The Republican state convention yesterday was without doubt the most enthusiastic ever held in the state. The convention was from beginning to ending an "Allison convention." It was manifest that he is the first and last choice of the Republicans of Iowa. During the whole day's proceedings no other name was suggested.

The Allison Platform.

The following are the resolutions of the convention, adopted unanimously:

We, the representatives of the Republican party of Iowa, voicing the unanimous will and enthusiastic purpose of the Republicans of the state, herewith formally present to the Republicans of the nation the Hon. William B. Allison, United States senator from Iowa, as a fitting candidate for the Republican nomination for President of the United States. The Republicans of Iowa, in their fealty to Republican principles, and with a profound sense of their obligation to the people of the nation to do only what seems best to bring back to the prostrated interests of the nation, the health giving tonic of Republican policy, present Mr. Allison in a spirit far above any consideration of state pride. For many years there has been a universal feeling among the people of Iowa that Senator Allison is conspicuously fitted for the position of President of the republic and this sentiment has spread widely over the nation. So that we present his name to-day, in no sense of personal compliment to him, in no sense of local price, but with the profound conviction that we are fulfilling a duty to the party and a duty to the nation. We believe that Senator Allison represents as well as any man in the nation the competency of the Republican party to deal honestly, wisely and successfully with all the interests of the country. For a third of a century the Republican party has solved the greatest difficulties in government that it is possible for a party to encounter. Its rule was grandly beneficent, and the growth and prosperity of the nation under it was marvelous. Since the Democratic party replaced it in control the record has been one of wretched mismanagement and dismal disaster. It is this contrast between Republican competency and Democratic incompetency that will carry the Republican party back into power. The strength of its cause will not rest upon one issue, but upon its demonstrated ability to meet all issues firmly, wisely and successfully.

Senator Allison has been a conspicuous figure in this beneficent work of the party throughout its whole existence. No other man in the nation more emphatically represents tae constructive and resourceful capacity of the party to meet, in a practical and successful way, the difficult problems of administration. For thirty-one years he has had a moulding hand in all the important laws upon the nation's statute books. Throughout this long period he has been a prominent and indefatigable laborer in all the difficult problems connected with the war and the means of sustaining it; reconstruction, and the harmonizing of the sections, the abolition of slavery, the enfranchisement, education and upbuilding of the negro, supplementing in this the work of Iowa, which was the first state to give the ballot to the black man; the raising of revenue to sustain the government, pay pensions and discharge the thousands of millions of public debt; the creation of our financial system, and the return to specie payment; the creation of a sound currency; the upbuilding of agencies for the development of the West; the reform of civil service; the national control of railroads, the upbuilding of American industries; the protection of dairy and agricultural products; the prevention of Chinese and pauper and criminal immigration, and the creation of a pension list unequalled in the gratitude of nations.

If the dominant issue of this contest is to be the tariff, then no man has been oftener placed to the front in the formation of Republican tariffs than Senator Allison. For 31 years he has been among the foremost in their construction and discussion, and always upon the line of that fair and sufficient protection that is the strength of the party policy. He was chairman of the subcommittee that after many months of investigation drafted the administrative provisions of the custom laws, accepted under all tariff bills since constructed as most efficient in their operation. He was chairman of the Senate committee that drafted the Senate substitute for the Democratic tariff bill of 1890, which substitute was largely the basis of the Republican tariff of 1890. He had the Senate leadership again in the perfection of the last Republican tariff where it received many of its important provisions, notably that of reciprocity. He was again selected by the Senate Republicans to lead the discussion and assault upon the free trade Wilson bill, and his skill and influence largely saving that measure of protection to American industry secured under this law. His arraignment of that law was a protest and a prophecy. "I stand here," he said, "without fear of successful contradiction, that, with a few exceptions, there is not an industry or occupation in the United States which would not be greatly injured, if not paralyzed by this bill. With these exceptions is would seem that none of our great interests can survive, certainly none have a healthy existence."

We challenge a parallel in the record of any living statesman to the masterly work done by Senator Allison for many years in the line of that fair and beneficent protection that has built up the industries of the nation, given employment and good wages to the working men, laid no appreciable burden upon the consumer, furnished abundent revenue for the needs of the government, and payment of the public debt, and which is at once the pride and strength of the party.

If that dominant issue is to be finance, then no man in the nation has a greater reputation for financial resourcefulness and constructiveness and soundness, a fact constructiveness and soundness, a fact conspicuously recognized by the pressure of Presidents Garfield and Harrison upon him to take the portfolio of the treasury in their respective administrations. He has been favorable to a true bi-metallism, and he has at all times labored to maintain an abundant currency of gold, silver and paper, made interconvertable and equal to the best currency of the commercial world. He has demanded for the business of the nation a currency equitable and stable, free from the ascillations so dangerous to business interests; and so unjust to the wage earners of the nation, whose thousands of millions of annual wages and many thousand millions of credit in savings banks and other forms, constitute them the great creditor class of the nation.

If the foreign policy of the nation is to be an issue, Senator Allison has held rigidly to the teachings of Washington and Monroe, opposing any entangling alliances with other countries, assaulting no established rights of nations upon this continent, but firmly instituting that the political systems of Europe shall not be enlarged and extended in this hemisphere, menacing alike the integrity of the United States and the Republican governments of the continent.

If experience and familiarity with every detail of governmental business is to be the test, Senator Allison has 31 years of intimate knowledge and experience, gained as a member of the great committee of Congress which emphasized his eminent fitness.

Strong in every mental, moral and personal quality; strong in his industry and capacity to labor; strong in his firmness and conscientiousness of opinion, strong in his freedom from extremes and sectionalism, strong in a long record of unerring judgment as to public measures, strong in his universal reputation for conservatism and soundness and safety, the Republicans of Iowa present him to the party and nation as the ideal candidate.

WILLIS TO COME BACK.

Believed American Legation at Hawaii Will Be Closed.

San Francisco, March 13.—A special from Honolulu to a local paper says: United States Minister Willis has announced his intention of leaving Hawaii April 15. This statement, made in the face of the minister's recent denunciation of a similar report, is construed and temporarily believed to mean that he will not again return. Many people are of the opinion that the American legation will be closed for the remainder of President Cleveland's term. In order to get even with the Dole regime for criticising the action of Minister Willis in refusing to acknowledge the January celebration. Mr. Willis's departure is looked upon as the only recourse left, as he has been persona non grata from the moment of his arrival. There has been more or less talk of the possibility of the Hawaiian government giving Minister Willis his passports and it is fair to surmise that Willis is leaving to prevent such a contingency.

IMPORTANT TO ARCHAEOLOGY.

Inscription on the Architrave of the Parthenon Interpreted.

Ithaca, N. Y., March 11.—A letter has been received from Miss Nellie M. Reed, who holds the Cornell Traveling Scholarship of the American Classical School in Athens, Greece, in which she states that E. P. Andrews, also an American student there, has succeeded in interpreting the inscription on the architrave of the east front of Parthenon, which hitherto has been an unsolved problem. The task was done by making paper impressions of the holes to gather relative positions and individual shape of the characters when molded by means of paper pulp. The result will be given at an open meeting of the American school. The discovery is an important one to archaeology, inasmuch as in addition to the interpretation of the inscription, it has revealed a series of ornamentations of the architrave of the temple at various periods.

NO SENATOR ELECTED.

Gov. Bradley Will Have to Appoint One to Serve Until an Election.

Frankfort, Ky., March 17.—To-day was the last day on which a senator could be elected for Kentucky. The joint session adopted a resolution to adjourn sine die, which was carried.

No successor to Blackburn being elected, when his term expires on March 4 next, Governor Bradley will have the power, under the national constitution, to appoint a senator until such time as the legislature elects one.

The reason for the failure to elect lies in the fact that neither party has a majority on joint ballot. The Republicans have a majority in the House, the Democrats in the Senate. On joint ballot there are Republicans 68, Democrats 68, Populists 2. The Democratic caucus split on the silver question, the free silver Democrats nominating Blackburn, and the sound money Democrats refusing to support him.

Dr. Hunter was nominated by the Republican caucus, but the discovery a few days ago that he had endeavored to get one of the Populists to vote for him by giving a written promise to vote for free silver, forced him to withdraw. The Republicans then named St. John Boyle.

ST. JOHN BOYLE.

No sound money Democrat would vote for the Republican candidate, nor would either Populist. Had the Democrats been solid for Blackburn, and one Populist vote been given him, he could have been elected; but the sound money Democrats would not support him.

Things got red-hot last week, and on Monday the Republican majority in the House unseated Representative Kaufman, a Democrat. The Democratic majority in the Senate retaliated by unseating Messrs. James and Walton, Republicans. The scenes were so exciting that bloodshed was feared, and the police were called in to keep the peace. Afterward, Governor Bradley called out the militia, as will be seen by the previous day's dispatches, given below.

THE KENTUCKY SENATORSHIP.

The State Troops Ordered Out by Governor Bradley.

Frankfort, Ky., March 16.—The state Capitol bristles with bayonets this morning. The news that Governor Bradley had called upon the military arm of the state was early spread about and caused a great deal of excitement. What promises to be the most sensational day of the Senatorial fight was begun with a proclamation from Governor Bradley, issued at 9 o'clock this morning. It is as follows:

Commonwealth of Kentucky,
Executive Department,
Frankfort, Ky., March 16, 1896.

Whereas, It has been made known to me by affidavits of the president of the Kentucky Senate, the speaker of the Kentucky House of Representatives and others, that for several days past an armed body of desperate men have by their threats and demonstrations intimidated and overawed the members of the General Assembly, and that a portion of said persons assaulted Senator C. J. Walton, and prevented him from going out of the Senate chamber; that a party of said persons in a like manner took possession of the door of the House while the joint assembly was in session, and assumed to decide who should enter the chamber of the House when said session was being held, and that on the 14th day of March, 1896, a portion of the persons were attempted to be sworn in as officers by the clerk of the Senate, to wit: As deputies of the sergeant-at-arms of the Senate, and thereupon forcibly seized the doorkeeper of the House of Representatives, while the General Assembly was in joint session and prevented him from exercising the duty of his office, and allowed persons to enter who were not entitled to a place on the floor; that the presence of these men prevented members from voting in the joint session; that the civil authorities who are claiming to act, to wit: The sheriff and his posse, and the policemen of the city have at no time arrested any of these rioters or armed persons, but have stood by and permitted them to continue their work of intimidation, permitting armed persons to occupy the Senate chamber and cloak rooms, while the General Assembly was in joint session; that said authorities are either powerless, overawed, or unwilling to act, and that unless the chief executive interferes and protects the general assembly, legislative action will be prevented, and riot and bloodshed will follow, and that the security of the lives of the citizens and officers of the commonwealth require such executive action. Now, therefore, as governor of the commonwealth of Kentucky, I hereby call into active service, to be placed under the command of Col. John B. Castleman, three hundred men of the First Kentucky regiment of state guards; Company E, of the Second regiment of Kentucky state guards, to be placed under the command of Col. E. H. Gaither, and Company B, of the Second regiment of Kentucky state guards, the latter under command of Adjt. Gen. Collier, until said Gaither reaches Frankfort, Ky., when the same will be placed under the command of said Gaither, who together with said Castleman will be under the command of said Adjt. Gen. Collier, who (said Collier) will report to me. Said Gaither and Castleman are ordered are ordered to proceed with their regiments to Frankfort, Kentucky.

(Signed) WILLIAM O. BRADLEY,
Governor of Kentucky.
Charles Finley, Secretary of State.

Soldiers on Guard.

Upwards of 400 soldiers occupy the state house square and the calls of pickets can be heard above the noise and confusion of the crowd. Governor Bradley was in consultation all morning with Adjutant General Collier and Cols. Castleman and Gaither. These gentlemen agreed there would be no difficulty in preventing trouble.

"I wish to say," said the governor, "that the military was called out in order to protect the members of the legislature from mob violence and not to protect myself. The story that I was to be arrested for usurpation of authority in ordering the sheriff to clear the state house of all those not authorized by law to be there and indicating that this should include the deputies that the Senate sergeant-at-arms had sworn in, and that for this reason I had called out the military is false. I am perfectly able to take care of myself, and my reason for calling out the military was to protect the legislature and prevent trouble."

Blackburn's friends profess intense indignation over what they term the usurpation of authority by Governor Bradley.

FOREIGN NEWS.

THE SITUATION CLEARING.

Italy Strongly Seconded by Great Britain.

Rome, March 13.—Out of the terrible storm of popular anger which swept over Italy when the news of the defeat of the army under General Baratieri reached here little remains but a feeling of great resentment against the Italian commander. All rioting has ceased. The recruits who fled from the country sooner than go to Africa at the call of the government for the class of 1872 are returning, and it is not believed any steps will be taken to punish them. Negotiations with King Menelik have been opened, it is anticipated that peace will be concluded before long, and the war office has countermanded the instructions sent to various points for the hurrying forward of reinforcements to Africa. The new cabinet is settling down to work and the financial situation is brighter than anticipated.

The conferences which have taken place here recently between the Marquis di Rudini, the new premier, and the Duke of Fermoneta, their audiences with King Humbert and the constant exchange of telegraphic messages between this city and the German capital have been coincident with the meetings in Berlin of the Austrian minister for foreign affairs, Count Goluchowski, the German foreign minister, Baron Marschall von Bieberstein, the Italian ambassador to Germany; Count Lanza di Busca, and the imperial chancellor, Prince Hohenlohe, supplemented by audiences with Emperor William.

Healthy State of Affairs.

Out of all these exchanges of views, it is believed, has grown a much healthier state of affairs for all Europe. The German emperor is understood to have been somewhat if not entirely weaned from his longings for closer relations with Russia and a possible alliance of the three emperors, and the attitude of Germany towards Great Britain, it is anticipated, will undego a change for the better. This is due to the fact, according to report, that Great Britain, when the situation was outlined to her from Berlin, before the arrival there of Count Goluchowski, promised loyal support for the Italians in the emergency and took steps to order an advance up the Nile from Wady Halfa towards Dongola of a strong column of British-Egyptian troops to act as a diversion and prevent the concentration of the natives for a joint attack upon the Italians. An Italian loan, it is further stated, could have been floated in London, and the half-pledged support of Great Britain to the dreibund, a support hitherto involving little else than an irritating uncertainty, is rumored to have developed into a much more cordial and solid understanding with the powers forming the dreibund.

To cap the peaceful climax comes the pleasant report that Emperor William of Germany, Emperor Francis Joseph of Austria and King Humbert will meet at Gedon in a few days, and that a series of brilliant fetes will mark this public proof of the renewal of the ties which compose the driebund, which is intended to demonstrate to all whom it may concern that Italy, instead of being friendless, upon the verge of bankruptcy and encumbered by a tottering throne, is strong in the earnest support of Germany and Austria, and will be backed by Great Britain in any great emergency. That the latter report is true is no longer doubted here, and it is added that a British naval squadron will be ordered to Genoa upon the occasion of the meeting of the emperors and King Humbert, in order to openly demonstrate Great Britain's sympathy with Italy and the driebund. Finally, it is said that before the emperors meet at Genca, Emperor Francis Joseph will have succeeded in entirely reconciling Queen Victoria with her imperial grandson, and so the peace of Europe, it is hoped, will be further cemented and the possibility of a European war will be driven further and further into the background.

Orders have been sent from the war office to Massowah that the report of Generals Baldissera and Baratieri, on the defeat of the Italians at Adowa, is to be supplemented by the forwarding to this city of a number of important witnesses of the engagement. It was at first proposed to court-martial General Baratieri at Massowah, in fact that plan has not been entirely abandoned, but there were so many utterances of disapproval in the press when the plan was outlined that it is understood that General Ricotti has decided to have the unfortunate officer tried in public and in this city.

TO APPEASE THE PEOPLE.

Italian Cabinet Council Releasing Prisoners.

Rome, March 14.—The cabinet council with a view to appeasing the populace has decided to grant amnesty to the participants in the uprisings in Sicily and Massa Carrarara in 1892 and 1894, except such as were guilty of homicides. There are 120 persons who will benefit by such a decree, including several members of the chamber of deputies who have been elected since they were imprisened.

The Italia Militaiare asserts that it has good authority for stating that the Emperor Menelik's proposals of peace are honorable and advantageous to Italy.

The Tribune fears that the proposals conceal a snare and assert that Menelike seeks only to gain time.

The Riforma vehemently opposes a peace. Most of the other papers, however, favor the conclusion of peace.

London—The important announcement made by the Times yesterday morning and cabled to the Associated Press Thursday night that the Egyptian troops would advance up the Nile forthwith to occupy Dongola was officially confirmed by the foreign office to-day.

The Times also said editorially of this announcement with a good deal of ostentation: "It need hardly be said that the advance upon Dongola will greatly benefit the Italians and the British government must have this desirable object in view in assenting to the British advance."

Taken in connection with the evidences that Count Goluchowski has succeeded by his visit to Berlin in strengthening the ties of the existing dreibund, Great Britain's diversion in Egypt in favor of a member of the Dreibund is regarded as extremely significant.

The correspondent at Cairo of the Times says: The ultimate object of the advance on Dongola is doubtless the relief of Cassala, whose capture by the Dervishes would become a serious menace to Suakim and Tokar. The possession of the fertile province of Dongola is essential for the protection of Egypt from Dervish raids, as besides being convenient to the base of hostile operations, it furnishes large food supplies to the Soudan countries under the Khalifa s rule.

News From Rome.

Rome, March 16.—The Italie states that the Crispi ministry authorized Gen. Baldissera to negotiate a peace with Menelik after the defeat of Adowa.

The Messagero says that Gen. Baldissera, on leaving Rome, had authority to evacuate Cassala, Agordat and Adigrat.

The latest news from the front in Africa is that the main body of Dervishes is advancing upon Cassala.

IN THE SOUDAN.

What Does Great Britain's Dongola Expedition Mean?

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London, March 16.—The Associated Press is able to state in connection with the reopened Egyptian question that the British government consulted and obtained the approval of a majority of the powers before deciding upon the advance on Dongola. This makes the new Soudan campaign of far-reaching political importance in its bearing upon Great Britain's relations with the European powers.

That the disclosure by recent events of Great Britain's complete and friendless isolation in the community of nations has given a shock and a feeling of uneasiness to the responsible statesmanship of Great Britain has been frankly admitted by British statesmen themselves. That England's diplomacy has been busy with efforts to make some inroads into the universal hostile array of nations has been generally understood. When the terms of the settlement of the dispute over the boundaries between the possessions on the Mekong, Indo-China, of Great Britain and France were made known the world expressed wonder at the substantial concessions made by Great Britain and the opinion was generally held that Great Britain sought to secure an entente with France as a consideration for these concessions.

Many commentators professed to see confirmation of this opinion in the suggestion offered by the Sultan a little later to Lord Salisbury, that England should regularize the situation in Egypt. It was suggested that the Sultan's suggestion was inspired by Great Britain itself in order to open up a course for the evacuation of Egypt, thus removing the principal cause of irritation between Great Britain and France.

The advance upon Dongola was decided upon by the British government with a view to the favorable effect it would have upon the Italian situation in Abyssinia, as was stated by the Times, the organ of the British cabinet, in connection with its announcement of the Soudan campaign. Almost simultaneously with the announcement comes the news of the visit of Count Goluchowski, the Austri-Hungarian prime minister, to Berlin, and the statement that as a result, the dreibund is to remain intact and that the German government's irritable attitude towards Great Britain as manifested over the Transvaal episode, has been mollified through the exertions of Count Goluchowski.

The question of the hour in European politics is whether Great Britain has thrown in her fortunes with the dreibund as against France and Russia.

The statement which has been promised for to-day in the House of Commons of the purpose of the proposed advance up to the Nile by Mr. George N. Curzon, the parliamentary secretary of the foreign office is looked for with keen interest in the hope that it may disclose something of the shifting or international relations now being adjusted in Europe.

Preparing for the Expedition.

New York, March 16.—A dispatch to the Herald from Cairo says the first troops to leave for the Dongola expedition will go on Wednesday if the transport vessels are ready. The 3d, 4th, 7th, 8th, 11th, 12th and 13th battalions are already at Assouan. Wady-Halfa or Korasko. The 5th and 6th battalions go from Cairo, and also the newly formed 14th battalion was composed of picked Soudanese troops.

The Staffordshire regiment is the only English regiment at present ordered to the front, but the Connaught Rangers are to be medically examined to-day.

It is now affirmed that Sir Herbert Kitchener does not lead the expedition, but that the commander will be sent out by Lord Wolsley.

There is a strong force of Dervishes at Dongola. The intelligence department hears that two strong bodies of Dervishes are marching on Kassala. If it falls Suakim will be placed in great danger.

A BLOODY BLUNDER.

Spanish Troops Took a Town From Spanish Garrison.

Havana, March 16.—A deplorable mistake has resulted in the killing of a number of Spanish soldiers by their fellow Spaniards. The battalion of San Quintin was approaching the town of Cano, seven miles from Havana, to save the buildings of a burning plantation. The town shortly before that had been attacked by the insurgents, and the garrison, without hailing the San Quintin battalion, and taking them for the insurgents, returned to a second attack, opening up on them with volleys. The San Quintin battalion, on the other hand, mistook the garrison for the insurgents, and charged three times with great determination, taking the town.

The blasts from the cornet and the cries of "Vive Espana" on the part of the San Quintin soldiers, were not sufficient to put a stop to the firing on either side. Before the mistake was discovered the San Quintin battalion had lost 12 soldiers killed and a captain and four lieutenants and 27 soldiers wounded. This episode was pointed to as a proof that the Spanish soldiers fight well if they have occasion to do so. The San Quintin battalion sustained more loss in a few minutes than they would have done in a great engagement with the insurgents.

Antonio Maceo, Quivican, Banders and Lacret attacked the town of Batabano on Friday night, and an obstinate fight ensued. The garrison of the forts, consisting of 56 men, made a heroic defense and two Spanish gunboats in the neighboring waters, assisted by bombarding the insurgents. The utmost efforts of the Spaniards, however, did not avail to prevent the insurgents from capturing the town.

Gen. Weyler is making diligent inquiry into the circumstance of the wounding by Spanish troops of the young American, Delgrade. He says he will deal justly in the case, and punish the culprit severely.

SPANIARDS STOLE WOMEN

And Bore Them Away to Their Camp.

St. Louis, March 16.—A special to the Republic from New York, says: Dispatches from Havana describe a series of horrible massacres perpetrated by Spanish soldiers. On March 10, in Havana province, six small Cuban boys were met on the public road by a detachment of Spanish infantry, who shot and killed them.

Ten days ago, a detachment of Spanish troops entered the town of Artemisia. The women of the town were violated, and many young girls were carried off to the Spanish camp, where they were detained over night. Two of the girls committed suicide the next morning. Two old men who protested were shot.

WASHINGTON.

FACTS FOR FARMERS.

Figures That Do Not Lie, but They Hurt.

Washington, March 16.—The farmers of the country will be interested in some figures and facts which Representative Heatwole recently presented in the House showing the effect of the new tariff upon their prosperity as compared with the McKinley tariff. He showed that the McKinley tariff increased the duty on barley from 2 cents per bushel to 30 cents per bushel and as a result the importations of barley fell from 10,000,000 bushels to less than 2,000,000 bushels. During the time that the McKinley law was in operation the farmers of the United States increased their barley production 15,000,000 bushels, the increase in a single year being worth $6,000,000 to the farmers of the country. Heretofore Canada has been our greatest competitor in the barley market, but since the repeal of the McKinley law the Russians have begun sending their barley into this country. In addition to this the Canadian government is offering every inducement to settlers in the section adjoining the United States lying northwest of the Dakotas, where the condition for barley raising is especially favorable.

In the year following the enactment of the McKinley law, the importations of barley abroad fell off one-half, by reason of the increased duty upon that article. They continued to fall year by year, until in the last year of the McKinley law importations amounted to less than 1,000,000 bushels. In the very first year of the Wilson law, however, the importations of barley increased 200 per cent. As already indicated above, the increase in the imports of other articles since the repeal of the McKinley law has been equally great. In reeds the importations doubled in the first year after the repeal of the McKinley law; breadstuffs increased 75 per cent; in hay there was an increase of 200 per cent; in feathers an increase of 400 per cent; in hemp an increase of 1,000 per cent; in wool an increase from $6,107,438 to $33,770,159.

Mr. Heatwole in his remarks upon this subject makes some interesting suggestions, too, about the effect upon our export trade of the repeal of the McKinley law. Upon this subject he says:

"So much has been said in the past by Democratic orators on the stump and in the halls of Congress concerning the great results that would accrue to American agriculturalists by free trade or a reduction of duties by reason of an increased demand for American products, that some figures on this line are pertinent. 'Throw open your ports to the world and you will capture the markets of the world,' they asserted time and again. We have tried that long enough to see how it works. The following table shows what has been the result so far as the exports of many agricultural products are concerned. The figures given are for the year ended June 30, 1894, under a Republican tariff and the year ended June 30, 1895, under the Democratic tariff."

	McKinley Law, 1894.	Wilson Law, 1895.
Barley, bu.....	4,749,586	1,556,715
Corn, bu.....	63,425,655	25,507,753
Butter, lb.....	11,658,213	5,462,563
Cheese, lbs....	72,102,634	58,446,037
Eggs, doz.....	2,150,047	1,698,360
Flour, bbls....	16,570,991	14,942,647
Oats, bu.....	5,671,252	540,975
Tallow, lbs....	52,588,800	25,030,339
Wheat, bu.....	87,958,280	75,881,639

A CAMPBELL BOOM.

The Ohio Man Wanted for the Democratic Ticket.

Washington, March 14.—An important conference of Ohio Democrats was held last night at the Arlington Hotel. Ex-Governor Campbell came in by arrangement. He ordinarily is a guest of the Ebbitt when he is in Washington, but he went to the Arlington upon his arrival last evening. He was accompanied by Joseph H. Dowling, of Dayton, collector of internal revenue, and Charles Edgar Brown, postmaster of Cincinnati. Late last night several prominent Ohio Democrats assembled in Governor Campbell's room and were in conference until midnight. Among those present besides those already named were Senator Brice, Congressmen Sorg and Layton, Superintendent August Machen of the free delivery system of the postoffice department, and his chief deputy, William Bellman, of Columbus.

Politics was the subject of discussion, but those who attended the conference are very reticent as to the nature of the conference. One thing, however, was touched upon that will be of the liveliest interest to every citizen in Ohio. It was the expressed belief of all those present that Governor McKinley would be nominated by the St. Louis convention for the Presidency.

It was also thought that as the time for the convention draws nearer, the practical certainty of McKinley's nomination would impress itself upon the country. The suggestion was therefore made that if an Ohio man was to be nominated by the Republican convention, nothing could be more fit than for the Democrats to nominate an Ohio man also.

There is the very best of authority for the statement that the gentleman present at the conference urged ex-Governor Campbell to permit the use of his name as a candidate for the Democratic Presidential nomination. The ex-governor received the suggestion very coyly.

VAST CANAL PROJECT.

Bill to Incorporate the Maritime Canal Company.

Washington, March 13.—A bill to incorporate the Maritime Canal of North America to connect the Hudson River and the great lakes was introduced yesterday in the Senate by Senator Hansbrough, of North Dakota, and indorsed by Representative Cooper, of Wisconsin. Among the incorporators of company are: Daniel H. Burnham, L. G. Fisher and O. D. Wetherell, of Chicago; Luther Allen, of Cleveland; F. L. Vance, of Milwaukee; L. R. Hurd and K. J. Wemyss, of Superior; W. B. Dean and Patrick H. Kelly, of St. Paul; Luther Mendenhall, G. G. Hartley and T. A. W. Hugo, of Duluth. The capital stock is to be $10,000,000, and a bond issue of $2,000,000 is provided for. The canal system for which the bill provides includes canals from the head of tide water navigation on the Hudson to Lake Champlain; from the head of Lake St. Francis to the St. Lawrence River above the Long Sault Rapids, and from Lewiston, on the Niagara River, to a point above the falls, and authority to deepen and widen the Champlain and Hudson canal is asked. The channels are to be 20 feet deep, to permit two of the largest vessels drawing 20 feet to pass, and the locks are to admit vessels 256 feet long and 65 wide.

The canal is to be under the control of the interstate commerce commission, and the government is by the bill authorized to take possession of the property on one week's notice by paying the value of the property.

FROM LAKE TO OCEAN.

The Maritime Canal Company's Immense Project.

Cleveland, O., March 17.—Luther Allen, ex-president of the Chamber of Commerce, says that if Congress grants a charter to the Maritime Canal Company, the Suez and Panama canals will be discounted. The scheme is to build a 20-foot channel from Lake Erie to the Atlantic ocean and it will probably cost $200,000,000.

"We do not want a government appropriation," said Mr. Allen. "Capitalists with millions are behind the scheme and the project will not be allowed to die a natural death."

JAPAN GETTING READY.

For Commercial Steamship Lines to the United States.

Washington, March 16.—Evidences of great activity, political and commercial in the affairs of Japan, China and the countries of the far East come to the legations here. As a result of Japan's prosperity, brought about by the successes in the war with China, that country has not only determined to largely augment her navy, but also to establish commercial steamship lines connecting the United States with Japan. The Japan Steam Navigation Company is preparing to enter this new field, running between San Francisco and Yokohama, in competition with the Pacific Mail and the Oriental and Occidental lines now controlling this trade. An important consideration in projecting the new Japanese line has been that of railway connection east from San Francisco, but in the event of a determination of the Pacific railways not to give the same rates as those given to the old steamship lines, which are branches of the railways, it is said the Japanese company, supported by ample subsidies from the Japanese government, will be prepared to run at a loss in order to establish a foothold. New steamers are to be built, and the representative of the company has recently passed through Washington on his way to contract for the ships, two of which will probably be built in this country and two in England; they will be of 6,000 to 8,000 tons burden and of a speed several knots greater than the ships in the Pacific service now.

EDUCATED IMMIGRANTS.

Senator Lodge's Bill to Bar the Ignorant.

Washington, D. C., March 16.—The Senate took up for consideration to-day a bill reported from the committee on immigration by Mr. Lodge, which requires that every alien hereafter landing in the ports of the United States shall be able to read and write the language of his native country. The test to ascertain the intelligence of candidates for citizenship in this great republic is ingenious.

The bill requires that "the inspection officers shall be furnished with copies of the constitution of the United States printed on numbered uniform pasteboard slips, each containing five lines of said constitution in the various languages of the immigrants in double small pica type. These slips shall be kept in boxes made for that purpose and so constructed as to conceal the slips from view, each box to contain a slip of but one language, and the immigrant may designate the language in which he prefers the test shall be made. Each immigrant shall be required to draw one of said slips from the box and read, and afterwards write out in full view of the immigration officers the five lines printed thereon.

The case of the United States vs. the state of Texas, involving the ownership of Greer county, was decided in the Supreme court to-day in favor of the United States. Justice Harlan handed down the opinion. The case involves 1,500,000 acres.

The House has decided to consider the resolutions censuring Ambassador Bayard for his speech at Boston, England, and Edinburgh, Scotland, on Wednesday at 1:30.

The resolution offered by Mr. Call directing the Secretary of the Treasury to give information as to the seizures of vessels for the alleged violations of the neutrality laws, was passed by the Senate to-day.

The House committee on territories today decided to recommend the passage of a bill creating a territorial form of government for Alaska, and giving the territory a delegate in Congress.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Is Provided for in Senator Frye's Bill.

Washington, March 11.—Senator Frye's bill providing for the creation of the department of commerce and manufactures contemplates the transfer to this department from the Treasury, of the life saving service, the light-house board, the marine hospital service, the bureau of steamboat inspection, the bureau of navigation, the coast and geodetic survey and the bureau of statistics; also the bureau of statistics of the State department, the two bureaus of statistics to be consolidated into one. The consular service is also transferred from the jurisdiction of the State department to the proposed new department. It is provided that the department shall have a general jurisdiction over the foreign and internal commerce of the United States, except insofar as relates to the collection of the revenue and the administration of the customs and internal revenue laws. It is also to have jurisdiction over all matters relating to the manufacturing interests of the United States, including the extension of foreign markets for the same and the increase of trade and trade facilities with foreign countries. The new secretary is also to perform all the duties now incumbent upon the secretary of the Treasury in relation to the trade and commerce of the United States, whether upon land or water. The bill is in the line of the recommendation of the national board of trade, and it is supposed that it will receive the general support of the trade and manufacturing interests.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

At the Capitol on Reciprocity and Commercial Treaties.

Washington, March 11.—The sub committee of the committee of ways and means having under consideration several bills relating to reciprocity and commercial treaties, will have a series of public hearings at the Capitol in Washington, commencing Monday, March 16, and closing Saturday, March 21, to which all persons interested in those subjects are invited to appear.

The committee desires practical information concerning the operation of the reciprocity treaties that were negotiated by the last administration and the effect of their repeal; also concerning the obstacles in the tariff or customs regulations of foreign countries tending to retard the extension of our export trade. The inquiry will be confined to those two points. Persons desiring to appear before the committee will address A. J. Hopkins, chairman.

MANDERSON'S OLIVE BRANCH.

His Interview Delights McKinley's Friends in Washington.

Washington, D. C., March 14.—The friends of Governor McKinley are delighted to-day over the publication of the interview with Gen. Manderson. They have felt all along that even Manderson's popularity at home would scarcely lead McKinley men in Nebraska to desert him, and Manderson's frank statement fully confirms this now.

His interview, doubtless, is intended as an olive branch which is likely to be accepted as such since McKinley's course has constantly been in favor of recognizing the claims of all others to the support of their own people, and as Manderson now only indicates a desire to be considered in case McKinley is not successful, his attitude will probably result in harmonious relations.

Mr. Manderson has evidently seen a great light, and his course seems likely to be speedily followed by other favorite sons. Dispatches from various points in New York, Pennsylvania and Illinois show it to be impossible to hold McKinley's friends in those states in line for favorite sons.

McKinley, 21-2; Field, 1.

Washington, March 14.—A McKinley man offered to bet $250 to $100 on McKinley against the field, in one of the prominent hotel lobbies here yesterday, but found no takers.

EASTER DAY.

Congress Petitioned to Set It Apart as a National Holiday.

Washington, March 14.—In the Senate yesterday Mr. Peffer presented a petition of Gen. Hugh Cameron, of Douglas county, Kansas, asking Congress to make the 5th day of April (Resurrection day) a national holiday, it being the day on which "The King of the Jews" whom Pontius Pilate caused to be crucified, April 3, A. D. 33, achieved his splendid victory over the grave. This king of the Jews, the petitioner asserts, has always been a true friend to the United States, and has unquestionably done more to establish and maintain free government and to make the United States of America a respectable nation than any other king.

VOTE TO ADMIT NEW MEXICO.

Senate Committee on Territories Reported Favorably.

Washington, March 14.—The Senate committee on territories yesterday decided with only one negative vote, to report favorably Senator Gear's bill for the admission of New Mexico as a state. The negative vote was cast by Senator Sewell, of New Jersey, who gave as the reason for his opposition that the American population was in the minority in the territory. The bill reported is an enabling act and authorizes the people of the territory to hold a constitutional convention. The constitution adopted by the convention is to be submitted to the voters at an election and if it is accepted the territory becomes a state.

WEIGHING THE MAILS.

Costs Money, but Saves Uncle Sam Millions.

Washington, March 16.—Our postoffice department saves the government a million dollars a year by its system of weighing the mail and determining the compensation of the railroads for carrying it. By weighing the mail only once in four years and paying for the ensuing four years at the rate determined by the weighing the postoffice department gets its carying done a million dollars cheaper than it would if the weighing were done annually. This is not to say that the railroads do not get enough for their service. Most of them are satisfied with their compensation, and even if that did not pay for the service, they would reckon on it profitable to have the reputation of carying the government mail. Every road which carries the mail calls itself a "fast mail line."

The country is divided by the postoffice department into four sections, and the weighing is done in only one of these sections each year. The year the weighing is in the section including the states of Michigan, Ohio, Indiana, Kentucky, Tennessee, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Alabama and Mississippi.

In 1878 Congress ordered a further reduction of 5 per cent in the rates, and since that time the minimum has been $42.75 a mile. This minimum is intended for the protection of small roads whose help in carying the mails is needed, but which handle so small an amount every year that at the pound rates it would not be worth while to bother with it. Most of the roads earn a great deal more than $42.75 a mile in a year. The Pennsylvania road gets $3,139.40 a mile for the haul between New York and Philadelphia, and the New York Central gets $2,583 a mile between Buffalo and New York.

The annual weighing of the mail is done chiefly by the postal clerks in the cars. The amount of mail in the car between two given points can be checked up and the exact service performed on each run can be calculated. The weighing of the mail goes on for thirty days on ordinary routes; but on great routes like that between New York and Philadelphia, it continues sixty days. During all that time the government keeps a sharp eye open to see that the railroad company does not take some means to increase the business on the route temporarily.

In addition to the receipts for the weight of matter carried, the railroads receive a large amount each year for the rent of the postal cars. The regular compensation is supposed to include space for the postal clerks in the railroad company's regular cars; but for the special accommodations furnished in the railway mail cars, by which the clerks are enabled to do so much of the work of handling and distributing en route, the government pays a special rate of compensation. These cars are of three sizes—40, 50 and 60 feet long, respectively—and the rates paid for them range from $25 to $50 a year. The railroads receive about three and a quarter million dollars every year for the rent of postal cars.

More than 120,000,000 letters were "separated for city delivery" for New York city alone on board the railway mail cars last year. About 50,000,000 pieces were distributed for Philadelphia.

The mails are carried over nearly 270,000,000 miles, and the railroads receive for handling them about $28,000,000.

A DRAMATIC PROTEST.

American Flag Used by Those Against the Morse Bill.

Washington, March 12.—Speeches were listened yesterday by the House judiciary committee from large delegations of clergymen and others who advocate and antagonize the bill recently introduced by Representative Morse, of Massachusetts, to place the name of God in the constitution of the United States. An American flag was brought into the committee room by the opponents of the bill, to which was tied a great bundle of protests and remonstrances forwarded by various organizations. Each faction was given an hour to present its side of the case.

Among those who spoke for the bill were: H. H. George, of Pittsburg, secretary of the National Reform Association, and President Hubbard, of the American Peace Society, of Cleveland. Among the speakers for the opposition were Rev. J. L. Jones, a Unitarian clergyman of Chicago; F. B. Woodbury, secretary of the National Spiritualists' Association, and Louis Abraham, who spoke for the Jews.

Considerable feeling was manifested on both sides of the question, and hisses and cheers frequently interrupted the speakers.

READ IN THE SENATE.

Spanish Side of the Story Prepared by Its Minister.

Washington, March 17.—The Senate had an hour of spirited Cuban debate late yesterday, after the early part of the day had been given to set speeches by Mr. Lodge on immigration and Mr. Pugh on silver. The Cuban discussion was mainly important in bringing out the full reading of a statement of the Spanish side of the case by Senor Dupuy De Lome. This had been referred to some days ago, but could not be made public. Yesterday, however, Mr. Morgan read a letter from Secretary Olney saying the Spanish minister gave his permission for the public use of the statement. It claimed to detail the insurgent methods of guerilla warfare, the burning of cane fields and the disorganized character of the insurgent bands. Mr. Morgan commented severely on the minister's statement. The Senator had several sharp controversies with Mr. Hale over various phases of the Cuban question. During the day Mr. Elkins offered a resolution directing the committee on foreign affairs to report as to the status of the war in Cuba before a vote was taken in the Senate.

BY A VOTE OF THE PEOPLE.

Joint Resolution Providing That Senators Be So Elected.

Washington, March 14.—At a full meeting of the committee on privileges and elections yesterday, Senator Mitchell, the chairman of the committee, was authorized to report his joint resolution proposing an amendment to the constitution providing for the election of United States Senators by direct vote of the people. The vote in the committee was five to four in favor of the amendment, three Republicans and two Democrats voting in the affirmative, and two Republicans and two Democrats against.

IS NOW A LAW.

Senate Joint Resolution as to Seeds and Their Purchase.

Washington, March 16.—The Senate joint resolution directing the secretary of agriculture to purchase and distribute seeds, bulbs, etc., as has been done in preceding years, has become a law, without the President's signature. The resolution not having been returned to Congress within the constitutional ten days' limit. Secretary Morton refused to carry out the old law and vigorously opposed the passage of the present more mandatory act.

Exports of Breadstuffs.

Washington, March 13.—The statement of domestic exports issued yesterday by the bureau of statistics shows the amount of breadstuffs exported during last February was $13,017,408, an increase over February, 1895, of nearly 100 per cent. for the eight months ended February 29, the exports of breadstuffs amounted to $92,588,912, as compared with $71,279,283 for the same period last year.

No Pardon for Cherokee Bill.

Washington, March 14.—The President has denied an application for pardon in the case of Crawford Goldsby, alias Cherokee Bill, sentenced in Arkansas to be hanged next Tuesday for murder.

Highest of all in Leavening Power.—Latest U. S. Gov't Report

Royal Baking Powder

ABSOLUTELY PURE

M'KINLEY WILL WIN.

The New York World Gives Reasons and Figures.

New York, March 17.—The World says: "McKinley will be the Republican candidate for President. He is already the chosen candidate of the West and South. That combination has never been beaten in a national convention. He will have practically the solid delegations from Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Missouri, Kansas and Wisconsin and nine-tenths of all the Southern delegates. He will be opposed by Governor Morton, as a local favorite in New York; by Reed, as the favorite of New England; by Allison, the first choice of Iowa, and possibly by Davis, of Minnesota.

"None of these candidates will have a strong following in any McKinley states, while McKinley not only has the West and South almost united in his favor, but he has strength also where Governor Morton, Reed and Allison are merely local favorites.

The World goes on to say that McKinley will certainly have 564 votes in convention as against the field. Necessary to a choice, 455.

MANDERSON AND M'KINLEY.

Senator Thurston Shows Nebraska How to Treat Them.

Omaha, March 17.—An open letter was made public yesterday by Senator Thurston for the alleged purpose of settling the differences between the McKinley and Manderson forces in Nebraska. As the senator is the spokesman of the Nebraska McKinley forces it is supposed to be satisfactory to them. The plan is that the state convention shall adopt resolutions that it is the hope of Republican to see McKinley President, but if the occasion arises in the national convention when they can nominate Manderson they will do so, and concluding:

"Resolved, That the delegates to the national convention should vote for Hon. Charles F. Manderson on any and all ballots when in their judgment such votes so cast will not in anywise tend to defeat the nomination of William McKinley or lessen his chances for nomination."

THE PEOPLE WANT HIM.

Judge Burke's Reason for Believing in McKinley.

New York, March 17.—Judge Stevenson Burke, of Cleveland, who is at the Fifth Avenue Hotel, said that Major McKinley would be nominated at St. Louis because the people were for him and desired protection. Referring to a report that Hon. M. A. Hanna is in this city with a view of opening McKinley headquarters, Judge Burke said: "Mr. Hanna has not been in New York for some time, although I see by some papers that he is here, and intends to open headquarters here for McKinley. Right now I desire to say that he will not open headquarters here, and he never has had any such intention. He may come here soon on business, as he is in the habit of coming, but it is ridiculous to say that he will work to get the New York delegates. Neither he nor McKinley had anything whatever to do with the election of two McKinley delegates in Western New York.

VICTORY FOR PLATT.

Republican Primaries in New York Districts Are His.

New York, March 17.—Republican primaries were held in each of the 1,392 election districts of this city last night, and the results show victories for Thomas C. Platt in most of the districts. The primaries were held for the purpose of electing delegates to assembly district conventions which will elect delegates to the state convention and congressional district conventions where the delegates to the St. Louis national convention will be chosen.

Two More for McKinley.

Milwaukee, March 17.—The Fourth Congressional district yesterday elected Wm. Geuder and Julius E. Roehr as delegates from this district to St. Louis, and E. C. Lindsey and William Graras, alternates, and adopted a resolution in favor of Maj. William McKinley for President.

Instructed for Morton.

Little Falls, N. Y., March 17.—The Twenty-fifth district Republican convention to-day chose delegates to St. Louis. Resolutions instructing for Morton were unanimously adopted.

TO REPUBLICAN LEAGUE CLUBS.

Reminded That They Are Not to Express a Preference.

Chicago, March 17.—President McAlpin, of the National Republican League, has issued a circular to the officers of the league reminding them that it is against the constitution of the league for it to interfere in the action of any county, state or national convention. He declares that all clubs affiliated with the league must not, anterior to the national convention, announce any preference for any candidate. The object of the league, President McAlpin declares, is to work for the nominee and not for candidates.

SOUNDING THE WEST

On Its Feeling Toward Quay as a Candidate.

San Francisco, March 17.—W. H. Andrews, ex-chairman of the Republican state central committee of Pennsylvania, is in the city. The local newspapers say Andrews's mission is to ascertain how the West would view the nomination of Senator Quay for the Presidency.

MISSION WORK.

American Board Receives Reports That Are Encouraging.

Boston, March 14.—The American board has just received the report of its Madura mission, India. The report is in part as follows: The scenes of the labors of the Madura mission is in the southern part of India, and covers a territory about equal to that of Massachusetts, with a population somewhere more than two and a quarter millions, or approximately that of Massachusetts and Rhode Island.

The foreign force on the ground numbers 29, of whom 13 are men and 16 are women. The native force consists of 21 pastors, 139 catechists, 15 evangelists, 66 Bible women, 305 teachers and 24 medical agents, a total of 566, and a larger force by 17 than has ever before been in the employ of this mission. Could the foreign force be maintained at not less than 35 and the native force at 1,500 there would still be ample room for all.

The number of churches is the same as last year. Three hundred and fifty-two persons became members of churches this year on profession, of whom 177 came from Hinduism. The net gain in church membership has been 230.

There are 28 new Sunday schools this year, the whole number being 219.

A SALUTING MACHINE.

The Patent Offices Issues Letters for a Cranky Thing.

Washington, March 12.—Commissioner Seymour yesterday granted a patent to James C. Boyle, an eccentric citizen of Spokane, Wash., for what he calls "a saluting device," which, when attached to the head, relieves the wearer of the mental labor of lifting his hat when he meets an acquaintance and his hands are otherwise engaged. All he has to do to accomplish this is to nod slightly. The motion starts machinery, which is in the interior of the tile. The hat is suddenly hoisted about one foot above the head on an apparatus like that attached to a self-dumping coal cart. Then, after remaining at rest a moment, it describes a semi-circle and settles back upon the cranium.

Jackson and Walling.

Cincinnati, O., March 17.—Jackson and Walling were transferred to the Central Police station this morning, and it was stated that they will not be taken to Kentucky until Wednesday.

At the central police station the prisoners were put into a "fly" cell together, so arranged that the officers could hear everything the two men might say. The prisoners are now in conversation, and the officers with a stenographer, are taking notes of their talk. This is done in the hope that something will develop that will aid to unravel the mystery.

Sealer Crushed in the Ice.

St. Johns, N. F., March 13.—The steamer Wolf, one of the sealing fleet, left here on a sealing cruise on Tuesday last.

She was crushed by ice and sank today. The steamer was taking seals when she was crushed by the ice. All of the crew were saved.

Mrs. Women and Women only

Are most competent to fully appreciate the purity, sweetness, and delicacy of CUTICURA SOAP, and to discover new uses for it daily.

In the form of washes, solutions, etc., for distressing inflammations, irritations, and weaknesses of the mucous membrane, it has proved most grateful.

CUTICURA SOAP appeals to the refined and cultivated everywhere, as the most effective skin purifying and beautifying soap, as well as purest and sweetest for toilet and bath.

Sold throughout the world. British depot: F. Newbery & Sons, 1, King Edward-st., London. POTTER DRUG & CHEM. CORP., Sole Props., Boston, U. S. A.

GREAT BRITAIN YIELDING.

Concedes So Much There is Little Left to Arbitrate.

Chicago, March 12.—A special dispatch to the Chronicle from Washington, D. C., says: A settlement of the Venezuelan question has been reached. It will be announced at an early day. Of this satisfactory conclusion of the controversy the President has had knowledge for two days past. Great Britain has acted with a magnanimity which commends her to severest critics. She concedes so much that there will be little left to arbitrate should arbitration be necessary. It is not improbable that the entire matter may now be settled outside the Venezuelan commission by the President and Lord Salisbury.

Under the terms, so far as outlined, Great Britain agrees to submit all of the questions in dispute to amicable adjustment, with the President, through the state department, as one of the contracting parties. That Venezuela would agree to almost anything suggested by the United States has been known all along. It is surmised that the attitude of some of the influential London papers in pointing out alleged defects in the British blue book may have had something to do with the change of attitude by Queen Victoria's ministers.

The President was in very high spirits last night over the favorable turn in the controversy between the two nations.

It Might Be Possible.

London, March 12.—The permanent under secretary of state for foreign affairs, Sir Thomas Henry Sanderson, was asked to-day if the report cabled from the United States that a settlement of the Venezuelan question has been reached was correct. He said that he would be glad to know that the Venezuelan dispute was settled, but he added, "I know nothing about such a settlement as the one reported in New York having been reached. For all I know, however, a settlement may be near; but I have not heard of its attainment."

LLOYDS INSURANCE COMPANIES.

Lawyer Charged With Grand Larceny in Connection With Them.

New York, March 11.—Graham McAdam, a lawyer, was arrested yesterday on a bench warrant charging him with grand larceny in the second degree in connection with the Lloyds fire insurance companies. He was committed to the city prison by Judge Cowing. He will be arraigned to-day when bail will be fixed. At the district attorney's office, where he was first taken McAdam became greatly excited. He said: "This is a terrible shock to me. I thought the whole thing had blown over."

There are two indictments against McAdam charging him with selling bogus charters. Two specific names are mentioned in the indictments.

Assistant District Attorney Pattle, speaking of the case of Mr. McAdam said: "The premiums in these fraudulent companies exceed $5,000,000 a year. McAdams has been connected with fifteen or twenty of these companies, and there have been 120 of them organized since 1892."

In 1892 the insurance laws were amended, making it compulsory on the part of new companies to deposit $50,000 with the insurance department, of the $300,000 capital stock. It is claimed that the Lloyds companies had forged charters which were dated before 1892, though issued since that time, and in so doing evaded depositing the sum.

QUARTERS IN ST. LOUIS.

McKinley Supporers Are Taking Everything.

St. Louis, Mo., March 12.—Within the past four days friends and supporters of Major McKinley, of Ohio, have secured accommodations for 1,500 people here during the Republican national convention. The Pennsylvania delegation gave up its contract with the Lindell Hotel to care for 300 people and the space was eagerly gobbled up by the Ohioans. Then Iowa gave up accommodations for 300 people and the McKinleyites also secured them. The Marylanders were the third to throw up the sponge and before the ink on the telegram was cold the Buckeyes had the accommodations. Aside from this, the McKinley forces have made contracts with the Southern for all the space that hotel would give them, and the same thing has been done by them at the Lindell, St. James, Laclede, Planters and at every hostelry where any accommodations whatever could be secured.

ASTOR WILL APOLOGIZE.

Lady Henry Somerset's Damage Suit Against Him Settled.

London, March 17.—The Evening News this afternoon announces that the suit for $25,000 damages for libel, brought by Lady Henry Somerset against Mr. William Waldorf Astor, as proprietor of the Pall Mall Gazette, has been settled out of court. It is added that Mr. Astor will apologize to Lady Henry Somerset and that the Pall Mall Gazette and twenty other papers will pay the costs.

The libel complained of grew out of the effort made by Lady Henry Somerset to reform the notorious drunkard, Jane Cakebread, who has been convicted hundreds of times.

WALLER STILL IN JAIL.

Order for His Release Not Yet Signed.

Paris, March 17.—The Patrie says it has been informed at the ministry of the Interior that Mr. John L. Waller, formerly United States consul at Tamatave, undergoing sentence of twenty years' imprisonment for corresponding with the Hovas, is still in prison, no order for his release having been received, and that negotiations between France and the United States on this subject are still proceeding.

Chinese Smuggling.

New York, March 12.—After considerable work in and around New York by government officials the first public move in what will tend to break up an alleged big scheme to smuggle Chinese into this country was made when Thomas Burns was arrested and locked up in the Essex county jail on a charge of perjury. He is accused of swearing falsely to a passport which enabled a Chinaman, whose name is for the present withheld by the authorities, to cross the Canadian border into Vermont on the alleged grounds that the Chinaman was engaged in business in Newark. Burns was arraigned before United States Commissioner Whitehead and after pleading not guilty was sent to jail in default of $500 bail, pending a hearing. According to statements made last night it is the belief of the government officials that the importers of Chinese with shrewd allies, are doing a big business with bogus passports.

Killed and Robbed Indians.

Billings, Mont., March 17.—News has reached here of the killing of two Indians belonging to the Shoshone tribe on Northern Wyoming by three white men, who murdered the Indians and then stole their horses. The murderers escaped into Montana and sold the horses. They are being pursued by U. S. Marshal McDermott, of Wyoming.

Give Courts Jurisdiction.

Washington, March 13.—The House committee on judiciary to-day agreed to favorably report a bill to give the courts of Texas, Arkansas and Kansas jurisdiction over criminal and certain civil cases of the Indian Territory which they had under the act of 1875.

EA C. BOOTH.

Now in Command of Salvation Army of America.

New York, March 13.—Commissioner Eva C. Booth, who had temporarily supplanted her deposed brother, Ballington Booth, in the command of the Salvation Army in America, has in turn been superseded through the appointment of Mr. and Mrs. Booth Tucker to the command of the army in America.

Relative to the causes of Ballington Booth's retirement from the command of the Salvation Army of the United States, the following is published here:

Some time ago Ballington Booth submitted to his father twenty-two grievances and asked for remedy and relief from them. The principal one was concerning the "War Cry superannuation fund." The sale of the War Cry in this country was sanctioned by General Booth, who agreed to ten per cent of the sales being set apart for a fund for disabled and superannuated soldiers. It was with this agreement and understanding that the paper was sold in America. This fund has now amounted to probably $8,000 or $10,000. Some time ago, it is claimed, General Booth sent for this money, which he intended using for army purposes elsewhere, thus diverting it from its original purposes. Ballington Booth declined to accede to this demand, and said the fund was for the superannuated soldiers, and not for the extension of the army. Immediately on top of this Ballington Booth's removal was ordered, which led to his resignation. Ballington Booth, it is added, had refrained from stating his true position out of consideration for his father.

DR. BROWN ACQUITTED

On the Charge of Immoral Conduct With Mrs. Stockton.

San Francisco, March 17.—The council that is sitting in judgment on Rev. Dr. Brown has acquitted the accused pastor on one charge. After a long debate the councilmen came to the conclusion that Dr. Brown was not guilty of any immoral conduct with Mrs. H. A. Stockton. They based their opinion on the following facts:

First—That Mrs. Stockton was not a woman whose testimony could be taken for the truth.

Second—That there was no evidence introduced that was strong enough in a legal sense to convict the pastor.

Third—That he had shown Mrs. Stockton great kindness in the way that a Christian minister should, and that she had taken advantage of that kindness.

CELLULOID COMBS DANGEROUS.

What One Did for a Young Lady at Alliance, O.

Alliance, O., March 17.—Miss Maude Hoover, a pretty stenographer, was sitting at her home Sunday evening. Her long hair was loose, and she kept it back from her face with a celluloid comb. An open grate fire was near by, and the comb ignited from the heat, and in an instant her head was a mass of flames. Her agonized screams attracted her mother, and together they extinguished the flames, but not before her hair was all burned off and her scalp and face fearfully blistered. Her own and her mother's hands were also painfully burned. Her condition is critical.

MISS MARY LORD DRAKE

Will Christen the New Battleship Iowa.

Des Moines, Ia., March 17.—Governor Drake yesterday received from Secretary Herbert of the navy, an invitation to be present at the launching of the battleship Iowa. Miss Mary Lord Drake, daughter of the governor, is at the same time invited to christen the ship. Governor Drake will accept the invitation, for March 28, and will be accompanied by his staff and many prominent men of Iowa. Action has also been taken by the legislature looking to the presentation of a silver service to the ship's equipment.

NO CIGARETTES FOR IOWA.

But She Allows Them Made in Her Domains for Outsiders.

Des Moines, Ia., March 14.—The anti-cigarette bill previously passed by the House, passed the Senate yesterday, and unless vetoed goes into effect July 4. The bill prohibits both the manufacture and sale of cigarettes and cigarette papers, except by jobbers, for use outside the state.

Millionaire Murderer Sentenced.

Union, Mo., March 12.—Dr. Arthur Duestrow, the so-called millionaire murderer of St. Louis, who was convicted in the Circuit court here a short time ago of killing his wife and baby in St. Louis, was brought before Judge Hirzel to-day and sentenced to be hanged April 22d. Duestrow will be sent back to the St. Louis jail for safe keeping.

Markets and Crops.

THE IRON OUTLOOK.

Comment on the Unusual Quietness of the Trade.

Cleveland, O., March 12.—The Iron Trade Review this week will say:

Quietness that has not been more marked since the beginning of the year has prevailed in all iron and steel markets the past week. The same weakness noted in our last report prevails in pig iron; finished material shows no new development as to prices or demand. Plates, sheets and bars show more inclination to weaken than other lines. In the case of the last two, wage reductions will be in force through March and April, the drop in puddling being from $4.50 to $4 a ton. Structural material, as noted week by week, continues full of promise. Last year April was well along before things really began to move and some satisfaction is being derived from that record in lieu of any indications thus far that March is to be a better month than February. The probability that another week will bring a definite announcement concerning Bessemer ore prices, and the general belief that the basis will be in the neighborhood of $4 for standard Gogebic Hematites, have no effect on the market for Bessemer pig.

THE TRADE REVIEW.

Large Hopes, but Little Actual Business.

New York, March 14.—R. G. Dun & Co.'s weekly review of trade says.

Waiting is still the rule. Large hopes but little actual business explains the strength of some markets and the weakness of others. The feeling that the spring of 1896 ought to bring larger business does not come. It is especially noteworthy that prices of materials have varied quite differently from prices of manufactured products, although in most cases the advance last fall was commenced by extraordinary uplifting of prices for materials. Thus cotton is 29.2 per cent. higher than a year ago, but cotton goods average only 10.7 per cent. Wool is but 5.3 per cent. higher than a year ago, but woolen goods are on the whole about 4 per cent. lower. Pig iron is only 17 per cent. higher than a year ago, while finished products of iron and steel average 45 per cent. higher. These comparisons are important because they disclose something of the grave dislocation of prices which inadequate consumption and combinations have produced.

Cotton goods sell but slowly, notwithstanding recent reductions in price and the enormous accumulation of unsold stocks causes apprehension in many quarters. In woolens the demand is very largely for low grade goods, and fierce competition affects the prices of the better grades materially.

In clay worsteds the manufacture has been so far overdone that stoppage of some of the most important works is considered not improbable. The great need in the cotton effective law to prevent undervaluations of imports is now realized by all parties, and one has been unanimously recommended by the committee. Sales of wool at the three chief markets are smallest in five years, and for two weeks have been only 6,683,900 pounds, of which 3,239,200 were domestic, against 9,941,800 last year, of which 5,186,800 were domestic and 12,017,676 in 1894.

"HISTORY OF CRIPPLE CREEK."

We have just issued in book form the only authentic and reliable history of Cripple Creek gold camp, the marvel of the mining world. The book contains numerous full page illustrations of gold mines true to life. With the sole object of introducing our big 8 page 56 column illustrated weekly paper (established 1890) we will send a copy of the above interesting book free to all who send us 25c (stamps or silver) for a 3 months (13 weeks) trial subscription to our big weekly, which contains the latest mining news and illustrations of Rocky mountain scenery. Club of 4 and 8 books $1. Mention The Blade and address Illustrated Weekly, Denver, Colorado.

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1892, of which 8,368,425 were domestic. Prices are still maintained, with decrease in Australian supplies.

The market for wheat is weaker, with no better reason than the government report of wheat in farmer's hands which is altog